Hafa Adai!

'Tinian people should be given priority in creating workforce' PAGE 3

Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero is appointed DCCA secretary. PAGE 3

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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CNMI has 2 more COVID-19 cases

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Task force chief: Measures at entry point working

Two more individuals have been confirmed positive for COVID-19 in the CNMI, which brings the Commonwealth's cumulative total to 88 cases.

According to a Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. statement, the individuals were identified by travel screening and were confirmed through the routine fifth-day testing and have been moved to the quarantine site, which is the Kanoa Resort in Susupe, where they will be closely monitored.

CHCC has already initiated contact tracing for the most immediate contacts of the new confirmed cases, including passengers on the same flight.

With all of the CNMI's recent COVID-19 cases being travelers, this only proves that guidelines and measures being implemented at the CNMI's entry point—the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport—are effective, according to Warren Villagomez, who chairs the Governor's COV-

See 2 MORE on Page 4

GROTTO RAILING REPLACEMENT

The old railing at the Grotto site in Marpi is currently undergoing renovation as part of a project that will also see the Grotto's stairs repaired and replaced. A 19-man crew from the Department of Corrections has been working on replacing the old railings atop the Grotto entrance, and the railings of the staircase going down to the Grotto area, with concrete and metal beams. The project began two weeks ago and is nearly done.

NEIL FAMA

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

AT A GLANCE

As of 8pm, Oct. 20, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	3,756	130	3,886
Recovered	2,297	57	2,354
Active	1,336	130	1,466
Deaths	66	1	67
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			58,321

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	86	2	88
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			19,345*

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

Pacific Rim wants to sell off IPI assets

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pacific Rim Land Development LLC has issued a motion asking the U.S. District Court for the NMI to authorize it to auction Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's assets to satisfy the balance due on a civil judgement in favor of Pacific Rim.

In a motion filed by Pa-

See PACIFIC on Page 4

$136M of PUA/FPUC distributed

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» DOL intercepts 60 cases of fraudulent claims

The CNMI Department of Labor has distributed up to $136 million worth of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation on all three islands, according to Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente.

Speaking at a radio news briefing yesterday, Benavente said that

See $136M on Page 4

PSS back to Austerity Mondays

» Tinian BOE rep Philip Mendiola-Long resigns

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

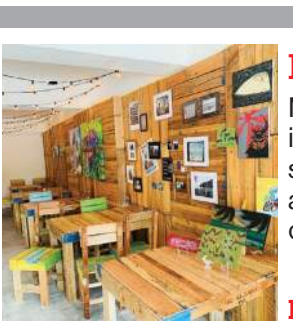
The Public School System is back to observing Austerity Mondays, effective Nov. 2. Also, Tinian representative Philip Mendiola-Long resigned from the Board of Education effective Oct. 20.

The Board of Education voted yesterday to move back their austerity days from Friday back to Monday, ostensi-

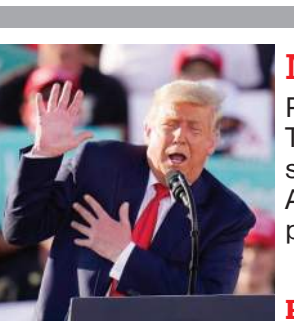
See PSS on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
The Annual Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest is happening this Saturday in Lau Lau Bay.
PAGE 2



BUSINESS
Marianas Creations is back in business starting tomorrow after eight months of closing its doors.
PAGE 11



NATION
President Donald Trump comes out swinging against Dr. Anthony Fauci, the press and polls.
PAGE 12

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Underwater pumpkin carving contest this Saturday

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

File photo shows scuba instructor and Green Flash Dive owner Joey McDoulett checking out last year's entries to the first ever Pumpkin Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest in the CNMI.
BEA CABRERA

The Annual Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest is happening this Saturday at 9am in Lau Lau Bay. This is the second year that this event will take place.

In the contest being held by Green Flash Dive Inc., licensed scuba divers will have the chance to carve a pumpkin underwater, a popular activity during Halloween.

Scuba instructor and Green Flash Dive owner Joey McDoulett, who came up with the idea last year, is expecting more than 20 participants this year. "The event is [intended] to generate interest in diving locally and to have a great time. Aside from awarding the best carved entry, there will be an award for best costume as well. …Participants can use pumpkins, squash, or any other carvable fruit or vegetable—pineapple, tomato, etc.," he said.

"Divers must have a certification card from a nationally recognized certification agency, must sign a waiver and release agreement, and divers under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian's signature on the release agreement. Divers under the age of 15 must dive with an adult dive buddy. We are expecting three winners this year to place in third, second, and first place. Last year's theme was underwater Halloween and it will be the same theme this year," he added.

Part of the rules will require divers to provide their own pumpkin and carving tools and pumpkins must be cleaned of all seeds and pulp at home. Carvings are judged on creativity and aesthetics. Premium scuba equipment are up for prizes. First place wins a Scubapro regulator, second place wins a pair of Scubapro jet fins, and third place wins a pair of Scubapro twin jet fins.

"There are two places for the costume contest. First place wins 15 free cylinder rentals and second place wins 10 free cylinder rentals from Green Flash Dive. …Non-participants are free to join and cheer on their favorite pumpkin carving or best costume and to enjoy the beach," McDoulett said.

To join, one needs to fill a registration form and pay $10 at Green Flash Dive located in China Town.

"It is the best Halloween event on Saipan because we have the best judges and this is…the only event that allows local divers to get together and dive at the same time for fun," McDoulett said.

The awarding ceremony will be at the VFW Post in Garapan starting at 6:30pm. Green Flash Dive, a pioneer in "hydrotastic test" equipment and scuba safety services in the CNMI, is located in Chinatown and is open from Monday to Sunday from 7am to 7pm.

For more information, call (670) 287-3243 or look up "Green Flash Dive Services" on Facebook and Instagram. Its website is greenflash-dive.com.

Candidates at a Glance

The Saipan Tribune will be coming out with a supplement,

#voteCNMI

in October 29 featuring candidates in the November election.

Spread your message to reach the people WHO VOTE.

Reserve your spot now!

For more information, please call 235-8747 and look for **Beth**, **Donna** or **Alyssa**

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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ON PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH DIVERT AIRFIELD ON TINIAN

'Tinian people should be given priority in creating workforce'

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has underscored the importance of giving the people of Tinian the opportunity to provide the workforce for the many projects associated with the U.S. Air Force's divert airfield project on the island.

Speaking at a radio news briefing last Friday, Torres said the CNMI wants to grow and that primarily means giving the Tinian community the opportunities arising from the buildup over the island from the divert airfield and other military projects.

"That's our priority…to make sure that our community, our people are getting that opportunity," he said when asked to provide a heads-up on the divert airfield and other military projects on Tinian.

In line with this, a lot of conferences and seminars will be taking place on Tinian, Torres disclosed.

He said they did a conference with the U.S Department of Defense last week in which the administration emphasized giving the people of Tinian first priority in creating a workforce that will tackle the many projects associated with the military projects. "This is opportunity from farming, fishing skills and other opportunities," Torres said.

He said the development on Tinian is important not just for the people of Tinian but for the whole Commonwealth and for CNMI residents to be given that opportunity to grow with DoD's needs.

In May 2019, DoD, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, and the CNMI government signed off on a historic 40-year lease agreement worth $21.9 million for certain airport and seaport properties on Tinian for the divert airfield.

The deal will allow the Air Force to use Tinian as an alternative landing site for its planes—a divert airfield—in case Anderson Air Force Base in Guam is inaccessible due to war or calamities.

The lease agreement is expected to spur economic activities on the island through infrastructure improvement of the Tinian International Airport, public roads, and community facilities around the island.

Equipment Operator Constructionman Charles Ciosek, deployed as the Seabee expeditionary construction and engineering capability of Task Force 75, stockpiles excavation spoils in support of the Marpo Heights Road G construction on Tinian. The Marpo Heights road improvement project is a U.S. Department of Defense project.
U.S. NAVY/MCS2 COLE C. PIELOP

Torres confident govt will spend over $300M in disaster recovery grants

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres expressed confidence yesterday that his administration will be able to expend the $244 million Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery action plan, on top of the $100 million or more from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the past three typhoons.

Speaking at a radio news briefing, Torres said the $244 million CDBG-DR grant—one of the largest federal amounts the CNMI has so far received—will be spent in a span of six years.

He said he met with all Cabinet members, permitting agencies, and Northern Marianas Housing Corp. corporate director Jesse S. Palacios about the CBDG-DR federal aid and that he and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios are exploring a new approach on how to expend this grant under the CNMI's disaster recovery action plan.

He also expects the CNMI to receive additional funds of about $100 million or more from FEMA arising from the Super Typhoon Yutu and Typhoon Mangkhut disasters and even as far back as Typhoon Soudelor.

"I am confident that we are going to spend that money because we need to. And that's an opportunity for us to deploy our community work and increase opportunities for our people and reduce the unemployment rate that's going on now," Torres said. "We will work extremely hard to make sure that we spend that money soon and, maximize that opportunity."

He said they are putting every effort to exploring new approaches just to address the permitting agencies and permitting requirement that they need to move forward with these projects.

Torres also disclosed that they are also looking at extending the Koblerville Homestead next year. He believes this will create between 250 and 300 new homesteads that they're hoping to open up opportunities for the community.

Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero is appointed DCCA secretary

Former House speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero was recently appointed as secretary of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, succeeding Robert Hunter, who is now senior policy adviser for the Office of the Governor.

Deleon Guerrero

Prior to this new position, Deleon Guerrero served as special adviser for cannabis under the Office of the Governor, where he helped lay the foundation for the CNMI Cannabis Commission. From 2002 to 2019, he served as a representative from the 13th through the 20th Legislature, where he most served as speaker of the House of Representatives during the 18th and 19th Legislatures. From 1994 to 2001, he served as historic preservation officer for the Historic Preservation Office under DCCA.

A veteran and former U.S. Army combat medical specialist, Deleon Guerrero is no stranger to DCCA, having worked at HPO for 15 years before becoming an elected congressman for Precinct 1.

"Former speaker Deleon Guerrero brings extensive public service experience, from his time at HPO to his time as a congressman for our people. Most especially, he has a love for cultural preservation and will work with our community and agencies to protect our cultural identity here in the Marianas. Lt. Gov. [Arnold I.] Palacios and I want to thank him for his willingness to continue to serve our community and business partners through DCCA's role in the permitting process. We look forward to seeing him work collaboratively with our DCCA staff and to continue the progress the department has made. I thank former secretary Robert Hunter, who is now my senior policy [adviser] for his service and love for DCCA," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

Deleon Guerrero said his new appointment means a lot to him personally and professionally because he began government service in 1986 with the HPO under DCCA, where he worked until being elected in 2001. "Coming back to DCCA after 17 years in the Legislature feels like returning home, coming full circle to where it all began. It was those early years that formed my foundation about the importance and value of public service," he said.

Deleon Guerrero's professional experience includes his service as secretary for the Association of Pacific Islands Legislatures, chairman of the board of governors of the Pacific Islands Development Bank, member of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Legislative Advisory Committee, president of the Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation, and as a member of the Coastal Resources Management Program board of directors.

Deleon Guerrero is also a former president and vice president of the Parent Teacher Student Association of Dandan Elementary School from 2002 to 2006, president of the CNMI Diabetes Coalition from 2004 to 2005, and roundtable commissioner of the CNMI Chapter of the Boy Scouts of America Program in 1989. ***(PR)***

PASSPORT RENEWAL NOTICE

PASSPORT:
People's Republic of China

NAME: **Li, Li**

EXPIRATION:
December 2, 2020

MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE

Rodney S. Cabarles, Chairman · Joseph T. San Nicolas, Board Member · Joanna C. Aldan, Board Member · Ringo C. Reyes, Board Member · Vacant, Board Member

Municipality of Tinian and Augiguan
P.O. Box 520059 • San Jose Village • Tinian, MP 96952
Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com
Tel.: (670) 433-2200 • Facsimile: (670) 433-1819

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Meeting on Friday, October 23, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Tinian Public Library, San Jose Village Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes
• August 05, 2020 (TMSB Special Meeting)
• October 15, 2020 (TMSB Regular Meeting)
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
III. NEW BUSINESS
IV. OLD BUSINESS
A. Continue Discussion on Pending Fall 2020 applicants
V. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING
VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
VII. ADJOURNMENT

/S/Rodney S. Cabarles
Chairman

[1]We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.
[2]Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.
[3]Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW/SWMD21-ITB-001

SUBMISSION DATE: November 12, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M

"Procurement of Services for the Removal, Packaging, Containment, and Shipping of Hazardous E-Waste Materials Collected at the Transfer Station Lower Base, Saipan"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

A non-refundable payment of **Fifty Dollars ($50.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the **Solid Waste Management Division, Lower Base Transfer Station**, Saipan required for each set.

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 27, 2020**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Solid Waste Management Division Conference Room, Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 6, 2020** to **Mr. Blas T. Mafnas, Acting Director of Solid Waste Management Division**, Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ PETER P. CAMACHO
ACTING SECRETARY, DPW

/S/FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA)
CNMI Government

INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-001-21

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 2020: 2:00 P.M.

"PROVIDE AND INSTALL TWO BRAND NEW COMMERCIAL A/C UNITSAND TWO OUTDOOR CONDENSING UNITS AT THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TINIAN

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING OCTOBER 20, 2020.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "PROVIDE AND INSTALL TWO BRAND NEW COMMERCIAL A/C UNITS AND TWO OUTDOOR CONDENSING UNITS (IFB-001-21)" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., NOVEMBER 13, 2020. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Executive Director

DATE: _____

NMC student government officers sworn in

An all-female slate of seven newly-elected Associated Students of Northern Marianas College or ASNMC officers took their oath of office last Friday, Oct. 16.

Alyssa Attao

Hilaria Aldan

Joelin Mettao

Maia Pangelinan

Reaven Cruz

Victoria Bellas

Victoria Matsunaga

Family, friends, NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico, NMC dean of Learning & Student Success Charlotte Cepeda, ASNMC officers and advisers joined in on the first ever investiture ceremony held virtually.

The newly elected officers for the 2020-2021 academic year are Maia Pangelinan, president; Victoria Matsunaga, vice president; Hilaria Aldan, secretary; Alyssa Attao, treasurer; and Victoria Bellas, Reaven Cruz, and Joelin Mettao as senators.

In her inaugural speech, Pangelinan said she and the officers will remain committed to the students of NMC. "As we all struggle to manage ourselves and the world around us, ASNMC is dedicated to creating new opportunities for our students to engage our community, build their skills, and speak freely in a safe space," Pangelinan said.

Eliptico told the newly elected officers that he looks forward to seeing the great activities, events, advocacy work, and other efforts that they will accomplish. "I want to thank you for continuing to have the passion and drive to serve our students as their voice and advocate in this academic year," Eliptico said. "You will have to reimagine and identify innovative and meaningful ways to engage our students, help them to navigate through tough current issues, and interact with our Proas in our new normal."

ASNMC is a student-driven governance body at the college. Its executive Cabinet is composed of students who are elected at large by the student body and serve a one-year term in office.

This year's student government elections took place on Sept. 21 and 22, 2020, and garnered a total of more than 300 voters virtually.

The investiture ceremony can be viewed on the college's Facebook page at facebook.com/nmc.proa. For more information, email asnmc@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

$136M

From Page 1

Saipan's PUA distribution totaled over $108 million while the FPUC totaled over $16 million. On Rota, the PUA amount totaled $5.7 million and FPUC amounted to $2.3 million, while Tinian's PUA totaled $2.4 million and FPUC totaled $2.5 million, she said.

Additionally, DOL received over 14,000 claims to date, Benavente said. For Saipan, there were 14,230 claim applicants; on Rota, there were 649 claim applicants, and 734 claim applicants on Tinian. Of the 15,703 total applicants, Benavente stated that over 7,000 have already been paid out, and that they have more pending adjudication.

Benavente stated that the last pay date was last Sept. 16 and they are working on applicants that have pay dates of Sept. 22, Sept. 29, and Oct. 6. She said the delay in the payments is due to many applications that were filed with incorrect earnings. Benavente assured that they are working to catch up for the pay dates of Sept. 29, Oct. 6, and Oct. 13. "We do have payment dates issued on the portal, but we want to make sure that each application, as I mentioned, is adjudicated properly," said Benavente.

Last Oct. 4, DOL announced that they temporarily suspended in-person appointments for its PUA program at the CNMI DOL office from Oct. 15 through Nov. 30. This shutdown was necessary to allow DOL to work on its backlogs on PUA applicants who have not been processed due to errors or incomplete information, to audit overpayments, to conduct appeals, and detection of fraud.

While there have been many distributions, DOL's Benefit Payment Control Unit has collected over $1.3 million in 349 cases of overpayments. Benavente stated that the result of overpayment includes applicants who misfiled a lump sum, misfiled a payroll protection amount, or whose unemployment was not directly a result of COVID-19, etc.

Benavente said that DOL has intercepted about 60 cases of fraudulent claims that amount to over $1 million, which means that they were able to stop the payment to these 60 cases. Additionally, Benavente says that they have been tracking applications and catching fraud cases that are trying to get PUA/FPUC money through the hiremarianas.com portal.

The most common factor of fraudulent claims is that their mailing addresses are not in the CNMI, but most are somewhere in the United States, Benavente said, adding that DOL has picked up on that, looked into applications, and found that there were no documents submitted such as their identification cards, check stubs, etc., which are red flags for applications. Once DOL sees those red flags, they pull out the application and hold off on any type of payment. There have also been cases such as the recurrence of blocked mailing addresses and with different usernames, where an applicant will try to get paid using different documents but still using the same mailing address that DOL had already blocked, Benavente said.

"We know that these are difficult times, not just in the CNMI, but worldwide and in the United States and so, with tourism being our bread and butter, we are keeping an eye on how our tourism-based economy can pick up and help our people get back into the workforce," said Benavente.

PSS

From Page 1

bly to comply with Public Law 21-35, or the Appropriations Act that was signed last Oct. 1, where Mondays were designated as "austerity days" of the CNMI government.

BOE vice chair Herman Atalig made a motion to revise the schools' calendar to reflect austerity Mondays, in compliance with the law. Five of the BOE members voted yes but did not explain the reasoning behind the move.

Atalig stated that students, teachers, parents, need time to "feel confident" that going back to Austerity Mondays will be the BOE's final decision. Soon after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres enacted the budget law that set austerity days on Mondays, the BOE voted to put the austerity days on Fridays as PSS had already set its calendar for the school year, with "Austerity Fridays" already built into the calendar. Yesterday's vote reverts PSS back to "Austerity Mondays."

According to Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada, school-level personnel have already called parents to inform them about the change to Austerity Mondays.

During the decision to vote if they should go back to Austerity Mondays, Mendiola-Long pleaded with the members that teachers have reached out to him expressing how they were upset that they needed to readjust and embrace the adjustment of the 2020-2021 school year calendar.

In the span of a few months, teachers have had to redo their calendar, lesson plans, etc. in order for students to not be deprived of instructional time. Now, with the five votes of yes, teachers will have to go back and adjust their calendars again, Mendiola-Long said. On behalf of the teachers and staff, Mendiola-Long asked the board to not flip-flop on the decision once it has already been made due to planning purposes.

Mendiola-Long announced his resignation during the executive session of the special BOE meeting, leaving only the board with only four members until Gov. Ralph DLG Torres appoints a replacement.

BOE chair Janice Tenorio stated that Mendiola-Long resigned not just as the Tinian representative but also his chairmanship of the Capital Improvement Project Committee, and vice chairmanship of the ISA Committee. Tenorio confirmed that they will be asking Torres to appoint a Tinian representative.

BOE will be having a regular board meeting on Oct. 30 at 9am.

2 MORE

From Page 1

ID-19 Task Force.

"As the curve [goes] up, we need to also be proactive in safeguarding our island community," said Villagomez.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres agrees that the system that the CNMI has is working, regardless of where the travelers are coming from, and that everyone gets tested, whether they are returning residents or nonresidents. "When they get in, they all get tested, then they get to be quarantined and then get tested again. …[Our protocol] doesn't discriminate against your nationality, your financial status, or your religion. The system is working for everyone," said Torres. With this system, Torres stated that the CNMI is "very safe" because of everyone's effort.

COVID-19 in Guam

Guam's 67th COVID-19-related death occurred yesterday at the Guam Regional Medical City at approximately 6:27am.

The Joint Information Center in Guam said the fatality was a 72-year-old male and was admitted to GRMC last Oct. 20 and tested positive upon admission.

"To those who loved him, please know that you are not alone in your mourning. On behalf of [first gentleman] Jeff [Cook], Lt. Gov. Josh [Tenorio], and our entire island, please accept our heartfelt sympathies and condolences during this most difficult time," said Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero in the JIC statement. "While I pray that no more families will have to receive this painful call, I also know that we all must do what is necessary to prevent further deaths from occurring. Wearing our face masks and practicing social distancing are the best tools we have to stop the spread."

PACIFIC

From Page 1

cific Rim attorney Colin Thompson, Pacific Rim wants the federal court to issue an order authorizing the sale of IPI's gaming machines and vehicles to raise about $3 million, to reduce the previous judgment entered against IPI.

The balance due on the judgment is about $5.53 million.

The motion asked the court for an order for the turnover, assignment, and sale of gaming machines and heavy equipment and vehicles owned by IPI.

The motion stated that, under CNMI law, IPI's gaming machines, heavy equipment, and vehicles may now be sold in an auction, with the sale's proceeds applied in satisfaction of the judgement.

Pacific Rim anticipates the auction to happen on two separate dates, Nov. 23 and Dec. 7, to maximize proceeds.

According to Thompson's motion, IPI owns 404 gaming machines evaluated by Clear Management Group to be worth $2,250,000.

Thompson said he has also served the CNMI Department of Public Safety commissioner with an Open Government Act request for inspection and copies of all certificates of title, certificates of registration, and all ownership documents issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to IPI.

In total, 45 vehicles, including heavy equipment, were identified and the ownership documents confirmed that none were encumbered by any lien.

In Thompson's declaration to support the motion, he listed the 45 vehicles and the blue book value of each vehicle and heavy equipment. The total estimated value of the vehicles was $898,664.

Thompson said a notice and sale procedure requires a minimum of five days' published notice in the newspapers. However, should the selling officer wish to advertise off-island, Thompson said the cost for publication are anticipated to be in excess of $2,500 and any such additional notice is not only expensive, but is far more than other statutory provisions require.

Pacific Rim sued IPI for breach of contract for refusing to pay for services in the amount of $5.65 million for substantially completed or completed agreed-upon construction work for IPI's casino-resort project on Sept. 30, 2018.

On April 27, 2020, the District Court entered a judgment in favor of Pacific Rim in its lawsuit against IPI for breach of contract and breach of promissory note.

On May 2, 2020, the federal court entered an amended civil judgment in favor of Pacific Rim in the amount of $6.8 million, including the principal amount and attorney's fees and costs.

On June 22, 2020, Pacific Rim filed a motion for an order in aid of judgement. The court then issued an order granting in part and denying in part the motion for order authorizing the release of funds to the plaintiff and directing the clerk of court to release the funds received from Bank of Saipan to Pacific Rim in the amount of $1,383,869.45.

7-day early voting on Tinian, Rota starts Tuesday

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission is ready for the seven-day early voting on Tinian and Rota that will start this Tuesday, Oct. 27.

"We're just waiting for the time," said CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez yesterday.

On Tinian, the designated polling place is the gymnasium, while on Rota it's the Northern Marianas College room A1.

» Gym is designated polling site on Tinian; NMC room A1 is for Rota

For those who are 55 years old and above and those with disabilities, voting hours will be from 8am to 9am. Voting hours for all registered voters will be from 9am to 5pm.

Voters must ensure that they bring with them an identification card with a picture as they will be required to present it in order to be issued a ballot at the polling sites.

Out of 18,526 active registered voters in the CNMI, Tinian and Aguiguan have 1,724, while Rota has 1,931.

The 21-day early voting for Saipan and the Northern Islands started last Oct. 13 and will end Nov. 2. The general election will be on Nov. 3.

$644K DOI grants support Marshall Islands communities

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S, Department of the Interior has awarded $644,063 in fiscal year 2020 grant funding to provide reliable energy systems for two remote atoll local governments in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and to bolster services available to the Marshallese community residing in Northwest Arkansas. Funds are provided through the DOI's Office of Insular Affairs' Technical Assistance Program.

"Interior Secretary David L. Bernhardt] and I are pleased to support Marshallese communities in the Marshall Islands and in the United States," said Douglas W. Domenech, Interior assistant secretary, Insular and International Affairs. "Reliable and efficient energy for the remote Namdrik Atoll local government and Enewetak local government on Majuro will go a long way to reduce high costs of imported fuels, and we are glad that we are able to provide support to Marshallese communities in Northwest Arkansas who have been disproportionally impacted by the coronavirus pandemic."

U.S. Ambassador to the RMI Roxanne Cabral said, "The RMI is a close friend of the United States and we are grateful for the opportunity to help provide solar energy to the local governments of Namdrik and Enewetak/Ujelang. Also, our heart goes out to RMI citizens affected by COVID-19 in Arkansas, and we are glad to be able provide support to this community."

The grant funding award is detailed below:

■ **Namdrik Alele Local Government - $350,000** will be used for a solar-powered energy network to provide 100 off-grid stand-alone solar photovoltaic systems with battery backup for homes on Namdrik atoll in the Marshall Islands. Power in the atoll is limited, non-existent, or unreliable - restricting atoll residents from activities after sunset. Solar energy systems, proven effective in the RMI, are supported by local energy plans, will improve the livelihood of Namdrik atoll residents, and will provide training opportunities for residents during installation and deployment of the systems.

■ **Marshallese Educational Initiative (MEI), a non-profit organization - $207,063** will be awarded to fund public service and outreach activities of the Marshallese Resource and Educational Center in Springdale, Arkansas. Activities provided in support of the Marshallese population in Arkansas include outreach and awareness related to the coronavirus pandemic, translation and notary services, youth mentoring for higher education, healthcare and diabetes prevention outreach, financial-planning workshops, resume-building services, and awareness to prevent domestic violence. MEI estimates the Marshallese population in Northwest Arkansas to be close to 10,000.

■ **Enewetak/Ujelang Local Government - $87,000** will be used to purchase and install a new solar energy system with solar panels and air-conditioning units for the recently completed Enewetak/Ujelang local government building on Majuro. The new building, funded through Compact of Free Association funding provided by OIA, replaced a 40-ft container previously used by the local government as office space and warehouse for food storage and other necessities that are stockpiled for the Enewetak/Ujelang community. Enewetak is one of the four nuclear-affected atolls in the RMI.

The OIA Technical Assistance Program is made available each year by Congress to support priorities in the U.S. territories and the freely associated states. For more information on grant assistance provided through OIA, visit: https://www.doi.gov/oia/financial-assistance. ***(PR)***

Court maintains Teregeyo's conditional release

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The federal court has maintained the conditional release of Vickilyn Ramonica Manglona Teregeyo, a defendant in a methamphetamine case, who admitted to violating the conditions of her probation.

Despite the recommendation of the U.S Probation Office to revoke Tereggeyo's supervised release, U.S District Court of the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona did not do so, mainly because the defendant admitted to violating the conditions of her probation and explained why she violated them.

However, Manglona granted the request of the probation officer to order Teregeyo to stay away from or to have no contact with Lucas Manglona.

At a hearing last week, Manglona noted that Teregeyo admitted she violated the conditions of her probation and admonished the defendant.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, U.S probation officer Gregory Arriola asked the District Court for the NMI to summon Teregeyo to appear at a hearing and to answer why her supervised release should not be revoked.

Teregeyo, according to Arriola, tampered with the sweat patch applied on her on Aug. 24, 2020. Then on Aug. 25, 2020, he said, Teregeyo submitted a diluted urine sample.

Arriola said the defendant tested positive for use of methamphetamine or "ice" on Aug. 25 and Aug. 28, 2020.

Teregeyo claimed that Lucas Manglona, a former federal offender, had offered her "asiga," or salt, which turned out to be mixed with "ice."

Teregeyo was convicted in Guam of the offense of drug user in possession of firearm and ammunition. She was allowed by the federal court to serve her probation in the CNMI.

On May 24, 2019, Teregeyo was sentenced by District Court of Guam Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood to time served—12 months and 18 days—and three years of supervised release, which is set to expire on May 23, 2022.

TINIAN ROAD CLEARING

Engineering Aide 2nd Class Giacomo Fitton, deployed as the Seabee expeditionary construction and engineering capability of Task Force 75, conducts an engineering survey to mark out the centerline of Marpo Heights Road G on Tinian. The Marpo Heights road improvement project is a U.S. Department of Defense innovative readiness training mission.
U.S. NAVY/MCS2 COLE C. PIELOP

Equipment Operator Constructionman Charles Ciosek, deployed as the Seabee expeditionary construction and engineering capability of Task Force 75, repositions the clamshell bucket on the 924 Loader to continue clear and grub operations in support of Marpo Heights Road G on Tinian. U.S. NAVY/MCS2 COLE C. PIELOP

Equipment Operator Constructionman Ramsey Lora, deployed as the Seabee expeditionary construction and engineering capability of Task Force 75, operates the D6K dozer to knock down heavy shrubbery in support of Marpo Heights Road G construction on Tinian. U.S. NAVY/MCS2 COLE C. PIELOP

Public warned of rip currents

The public is being warned of a high rip current risk that is in effect until late Wednesday night.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, dangerous rip currents are present along east facing reefs of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota until tonight.

Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from shore into deeper water. Inexperienced swimmers should stay out of the water. Residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are advised to swim near a lifeguard. If caught in a rip current, relax and float. Don't swim against the current. If unable to escape, face the shore and call or wave for help. ***(PR)***

$43M contract for munitions storage facilities in Guam

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific has awarded a $43 million firm-fixed-price contract to Core Tech-Hawaiian Dredging, LLC of Tamuning, Guam, for the design and construction of Munitions Storage Igloos Phase 3 at Andersen Air Force Base.

"This contract award to a Guam company reinforces our ability to draw from the aptitude and proficiency of the local business community to deliver critical military infrastructure," said Capt. Tim Liberatore, NAVFAC Marianas commanding officer. "The project will provide munitions storage capability that is vital to enabling national defense missions within the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility."

The work to be performed includes construction of 20 adequately sized, configured, sited and protected munitions storage igloos required to support forward-positioned munitions at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

"The new munitions storage facilities will help us increase efficiency as a lethal fighting force," said Col. David K. Aragon, 36th Wing vice commander. "The increased capacity will support our current and future missions and enable us to execute more effectively."

Work will be performed in Yigo, Guam with an expected completion date of June 2023. ***(USN)***

Palau awarded a total of $844,131 worth of TAP grants

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs has awarded $844,131 in fiscal year 2020 grant funding to the Republic of Palau through OIA's Technical Assistance Program. Of the total announced, $190,000 will be provided to a Palau non-profit organization, Protected Areas Network Fund, to engage stakeholders in strategic planning for protection and development of Palau's marine and terrestrial protected areas.

"[Interior Secretary David L. Bernhardt] and I are pleased to provide this TAP grant support to the people of Palau, which will fund a 2020 census and update environmental regulations in Palau," said Douglas W. Domenech, Interior assistant secretary, Insular and International Affairs. "Palau is a leader in protecting their natural resources through initiatives such as the Palau Pledge and the Palau National Marine Sanctuary that went into effect this year. We are pleased that these funds can be used to help implement strategic planning for the promotion and protection of Palau's natural resources and protected areas."

U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Palau John Hennessey-Niland noted that Palau's pristine paradise will greatly benefit from the assistance provided through the 2020 Technical Assistance Program with its focus on supporting planning and resources that will be vital to preserving Palau's unique marine environment.

» To conduct a 2020 census, update environmental regulations, and support strategic planning for marine and terrestrial protected areas

The fiscal year 2020 Technical Assistance Program grant funding will be provided to support the Republic of Palau for the following projects as detailed below:

Republic of Palau Bureau of Budget and Planning - $483,531 will be used to conduct the 2020 Palau Census of Population, Housing and Agriculture. This 2020 census will provide updated and current demographic, housing, and agricultural production statistics necessary to inform economic development planning in Palau. The census will also list and plot all households in Palau, which is critical given population shifts to Babeldaob Island resulting from the relocation of Palau's national capitol and completion of the Compact Road around the island.

Palau Environmental Quality and Protection Board Authority - $170,600 will be used to review, revise, and modernize three outdated environmental regulations and to establish an EQPB information technology program, which will help ensure enhanced compliance and enforcement capabilities for environmental protection. The new IT system will include a GIS system, databases for tracking permits and applications, and a dedicated website to the regulations. The goal is to develop a contemporary environmental regulatory framework with efficient permitting and create a business environment that will attract and retain private- and commercial-sector investments that are consistent with Palau's socio-economic and environmental visions.

Protected Areas Network Fund, a non-profit organization - $190,000 will be used to help implement the Palau National Responsible Tourism Policy Framework, which establishes guidelines for tourism development in Palau while also ensuring the protection of natural resources for the well-being of the Palauan people. The Palau government established both the Palau Protected Areas Network, a countrywide system of connected protected areas in both terrestrial and marine environments, as well as the independent non-profit organization called the Palau Protected Areas Network Fund to serve as a financial trustee of the monies obtained from various sources to support the PAN. The PAN Fund will provide a 100% match of the OIA grant towards this work of strategic planning for protected areas.

The OIA Technical Assistance Program is made available each year by Congress to support priorities in the U.S. territories and the freely associated states. For more information on grant assistance provided through OIA, visit: https://www.doi.gov/oia/financial-assistance. ***(PR)***

BEST MANAGER

Congratulations to Jocelyn Asistores of McDonald's Saipan for being named as one of the best managers of McDonald's in the United States. Asistores was able to make it to the top 1% out of the 37,000 restaurants from 120 countries in the world for consistently demonstrating an outstanding performance. Greetings come from your McDonald's family in Guam and Saipan. We are proud to recognize her incredible work and achievement.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

No more COVID-19 test for returning OFWs from low-risk countries—DOH

MANILA, Philippines—Returning Filipinos from countries classified with low- to middle-prevalence of COVID-19 are no longer required to undergo coronavirus testing, the Department of Health said Monday.

In an online media forum, Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said that returning Filipinos from low-risk countries will not be required to undergo testing at points of entry, provided that they would strictly follow the minimum health standards and pass the symptoms screening.

She noted that the identification of low- to middle-prevalence countries will be based on the World Health Organization weekly classification.

The Health official explained that the move is meant to "rationalize the protocols" as returning Filipinos are being tested multiple times before they can enter their home provinces.

"Our experts agreed and they are saying na lahat naman ng tao na darating especially from those areas na wala naman talagang ganun na transmission, ito ngang low- to mid-prevalence, the probability that this individual to have this certain disease ay maliit lang," Vergeire said.

(Our experts agreed and they are saying that all people who come from those areas that do not have much transmission of the disease or those with low to middle prevalence, the probability that this individual to have the disease is small.)

"Kasi bago naman sila umalis sa kanilang areas tinetest sila. Most of these OFWs (overseas Filipino workers), they bring with them their RT-PCR results which are two to three days prior to travel," she added.

(Because before they left their countries of origin they were tested. Most of these OFWs, they bring with them their RT-PCR results which are two to three days prior to travel.)

She further said, "When they arrive here, the experts recommend that we just do symptoms check. When they are cleared, when they do not have symptoms even in the past 14 days, they can be allowed to go back to their provinces."

However, the Health official stressed that returnees need to comply with whatever the local governments will require for them to enter their provinces.

She likewise noted that the decision is not related to the ongoing issue between the Philippine Red Cross and PhilHealth. The Red Cross stopped its coronavirus testing services that are chargeable to PhilHealth due to the latter's failure to settle its overdue balance of over P930 million.

The humanitarian organization, which accounts for over 25% of the country's total coronavirus tests, is testing specimens of returning OFWs, those arriving in airports and seaports, those in mega swabbing facilities, and front-line health and government workers. ***(Inquirer.net)***

USCIS executes new law on citizenship of US.kids abroad

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has updated its policy guidance concerning residency requirements under section 320 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to comply with the requirements of the recently enacted Citizenship for Children of Military Members and Civil Servants Act.

Under the new law, a child born outside of the United States acquires automatic citizenship under INA 320, even if the child is residing outside the United States, in cases where the child is a lawful permanent resident and is in the legal and physical custody of his or her U.S. citizen parent who is:

- Stationed and residing outside of the United States as a member of the U.S. armed forces;
- Stationed and residing outside of the United States as an employee of the U.S. government; or
- The spouse residing outside the United States in marital union with a U.S. armed forces member or U.S. government employee who is stationed outside of the United States.

Additionally, the child must meet all generally applicable requirements for automatic acquisition of citizenship, except the residence requirement, under INA 320(a) and (b). In cases involving members of the U.S. armed forces, the child and the U.S. citizen parent (if the U.S. citizen parent is the spouse of the armed forces member) must be authorized to accompany and reside abroad with the armed forces member pursuant to the member's official orders.

In August 2019, USCIS issued policy guidance to align with existing State Department policy and federal law. The new law reverses this prior policy change.

As of March 26, 2020, U.S. citizen parents who are military or U.S. government employees or spouses of military or U.S. government employees, and are stationed outside the United States, can file Form N-600, Application for Certificate of Citizenship, for children residing outside the United States because their children, if eligible under the new INA 320(c), are exempt from the requirement to be residing in the United States. Upon meeting the requirements and traveling to the United States to complete the process, the child will obtain a Certificate of Citizenship.

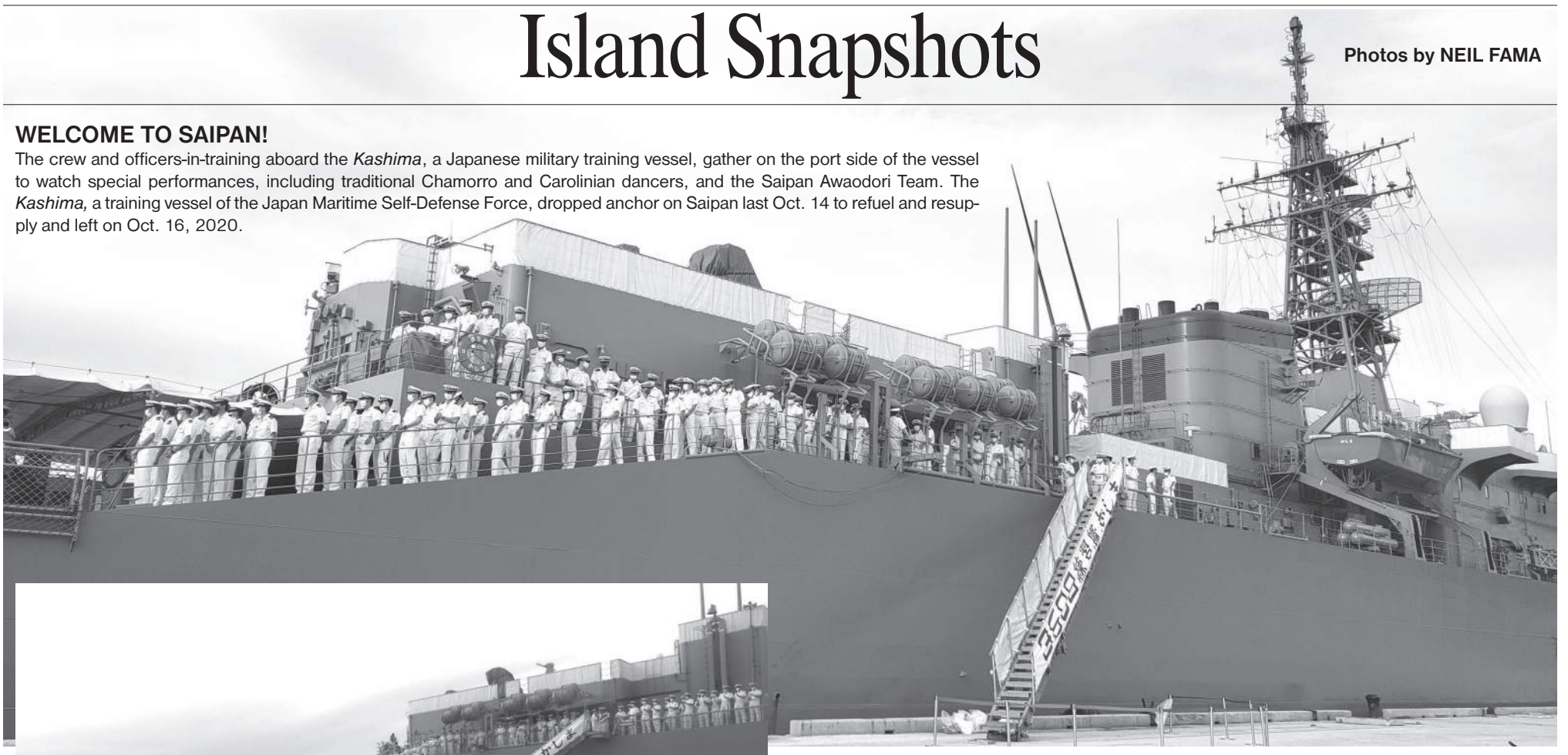
This change applies to eligible children who were under the age of 18 on March 26, 2020. ***(PR)***

Island Snapshots

Photos by NEIL FAMA

WELCOME TO SAIPAN!

The crew and officers-in-training aboard the *Kashima*, a Japanese military training vessel, gather on the port side of the vessel to watch special performances, including traditional Chamorro and Carolinian dancers, and the Saipan Awaodori Team. The *Kashima,* a training vessel of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, dropped anchor on Saipan last Oct. 14 to refuel and resupply and left on Oct. 16, 2020.



Although those aboard the *Kashima* could not disembark and explore the island due to COVID-19 protocols, they were still treated to a welcome performance by several dance groups at the Charlie Dock of the Port of Saipan last Oct. 15, 2020.

TanHoldings president Jerry Tan delivers his remarks at the official opening of the Philippine Honorary Consulate Office last Friday, Oct. 16, at the Sun Palace Hotel in Susupe.

NEW OFFICE

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, third from right, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, fourth from right, other government officials, TanHoldings and Tan Siu Lin Foundation officials, and guests cut the ribbon for the official opening of the Philippine Honorary Consulate Office under honorary consul Glicerio "Eli" Arago, second from right, last Friday, Oct. 16, at the Sun Palace Hotel in Susupe.

Philippine honorary consul to the CNMI Glicerio "Eli" Arago welcomes guests to the official opening of the Philippine Honorary Consulate Office last Friday, Oct. 16, at the Sun Palace Hotel in Susupe.

Guests enter the new office of the Philippine Honorary Consulate Office after the official opening last Friday, Oct. 16, at the Sun Palace Hotel in Susupe.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres delivers his remarks at the official opening of the Philippine Honorary Consulate Office last Friday, Oct. 16, at the Sun Palace Hotel in Susupe.

Opinion

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EDITORIAL

COVID-19 is being used as a cover to constrict global freedom

The global coronavirus pandemic "has fueled a crisis for democracy across the world," according to a report, "Democracy under Lockdown: The Impact of COVID-19 on the Global Struggle for Freedom," from the nonpartisan watchdog Freedom House.

Tragically, freedom has been contracting, not expanding, for 14 consecutive years, and the pandemic has resulted in declines in democracy and human rights in 80 nations as governments have responded by "engaging in abuses of power, silencing their critics, and weakening or shuttering important institutions, often undermining the very system of accountability needed to protect public health."

The crackdowns are acute in what Freedom House deems "struggling democracies and highly repressive states—in other words, settings that already had weak safeguards against abuses of power are suffering the most."

The repression takes many forms, some simultaneously, including abuses of power, in which "officials and security services perpetrated violence against civilians, detained people without justification, and overstepped their legal authority." In fact, some governments used the crisis to grant themselves emergency powers, and then used them to "interfere in the justice system, impose unprecedented restrictions on political opponents, and undermine crucial legislative functions."

What's more, mis- and disinformation on the pandemic disseminated by some regimes may only add to the misery—and the mortality. And those who do speak out or report on the pernicious restrictions are often stifled, "making accountability difficult and hampering the dissemination of vital information."

Governments and citizens, Freedom House asserts, "must recognize that press freedoms and freedom of expression are essential tools for exposing misconduct and assessing the effectiveness of the pandemic response. Public health depends on the protection of these core democratic values."

And yet the countries that are supposed to project and protect these core democratic values don't always do so at home, let alone abroad. There have been significant setbacks in media freedoms here in the U.S., for instance, as tracked by Reporters Without Borders' World Press Freedom Index.

"Established democracies could do a much better job in speaking out against some of the abuses that are occurring around the world under the pretext of the pandemic," Amy Slipowitz, Freedom House's research manager, told an editorial writer. This includes internet dissent, which is the subject of a separate, but equally concerning Freedom House report, "The Pandemic's Digital Shadow," issued on Wednesday.

See COVID-19 on Next Page

Make way for Slayer Pete

By MARY MCNAMARA
Los Angeles Times

Mary McNamara is a culture columnist and critic for the Los Angeles Times.

Mayor Pete has found his format: the five-minute, remote-feed evisceration.

He always looks so nice, Pete Buttigieg—handsome in that white, Midwestern, college yearbook way, with a smile that seems bucktoothed but isn't and those perfectly, and apparently naturally, arched eyebrows.

Last year, as we got to know him during the Democratic presidential nomination race, he bore the weight of being the first openly gay presidential candidate easily, as if it was no big deal. Sure, it takes a certain level of, shall we say, personal confidence to imagine that going from mayor of South Bend, Indiana, to the White House is a possible career trajectory, but his was a quiet, respectful confidence, befitting a Rhodes scholar and a Naval intelligence officer.

So maybe it should not be surprising to discover that when Buttigieg swore to do whatever he could to ensure the election of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, that "whatever" turned out to include "speak softly and carry a sling blade."

Last week, having served as stand-in for Vice President Mike Pence during Harris' debate prep, Buttigieg must have seemed a natural choice for a predebate interview. Fox News' Martha MacCallum and Bret Baier certainly thought so, asking Harris' former rival a preloaded question about her public policy differences with Biden. Standing in front of Kingsbury Hall in Salt Lake City, Buttigieg gave his now viral-famous answer:

"Well, there's a classic parlor game of trying to find a little bit of daylight between running mates," Buttigieg said. "And if people want to play that game, we could look into why an evangelical Christian like Mike Pence wants to be on a ticket with the president caught with a porn star, or how he feels about the immigration policy that he called 'unconstitutional' before he decided to team up with Donald Trump."

Cue stunned silence in the studio and the sound of a kajillion social media posts.

Steve Doocy must have missed the segment and the tweets because he had Buttigieg on "Fox and Friends" the next morning. When asked a question about President Trump refusing to participate in a virtual debate, Mayor Pete answered: "I don't know why you'd want to be in a room with other people if you were contagious with a deadly disease, if you care about other people. But maybe the president of the United States doesn't care about other people."

Later in the interview, when Buttigieg brought up the president's denigration of fallen American soldiers, Doocy, having learned nothing even from his very own interview, interrupted to insist the president had denied those reports. Buttigieg let him down easy with a classic "If you really believe the president now on this kind of stuff," he said. "I've got a bridge to sell you."

Then, during an MSNBC interview on Sunday, Buttigieg followed a touching response to National Coming Out Day with a calm, cool and collected shredding of Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett's just-made opening statement ahead of her confirmation hearings. "This is what nominees do. They write the most seemingly unobjectionable, dry stuff," Buttigieg said. "But really what I see in there is a pathway to judicial activism cloaked in judicial humility."

Then he launched into a soliloquy that evoked the award-winning play "What the Constitution Means to Me."

"At the end of the day, rights in this country have been expanded because courts have understood what the true meaning of the letter of the law and the spirit of the constitution is," he said. "That is not about time traveling yourself back to the 18th century and subjecting yourself to the same prejudices and limitations as the people who write these words. The Constitution is a living document because the English language is a living language. And you need to have some readiness to understand that in order to serve on the court in a way that will actually make life better."

He went on to add that even the Founding Fathers—the guys that these "dead-hand originalists claim fidelity to"—understood the importance of changing with the times.

It's tough to make a term like "dead-hand originalist" go

See MAKE on Next Page

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Amy Coney Barrett and who is considered a good Catholic

By JOHN J. LOMBARDI
The Baltimore Sun

Rev. John J. Lombardi (jlombardi7@verizon.net) is pastor of St Peter Catholic Church in Hancock, Maryland, and author of the recently published Practicing the Presence of God.

As the U.S. Senate considers a devout Catholic, Amy Coney Barrett, as the next Supreme Court justice, we are reminded of the sometimes rocky and other times rich experiences Catholics have had throughout American history. Some have been celebrated, others not so much.

We can start with the original 13 colonies and the "papists persecutions," when Catholics loyal to the pope were persecuted because of their religion. The late Supreme Court Justice Sen. Hugo Black, once a KKK member, expressed fiery condemnation of Catholics. And one of the country's best-known Catholics, the late President John F. Kennedy, was a good example of having received both scorn and praise as a Catholic luminary. He was roughed up pretty good because of his faith in his first presidential run.

In many ways Catholicism is richly venerated in beautiful architecture, like the St. Patrick Cathedral, an icon of New York City. The Irish parade there attracts huge crowds and participants. Mother Teresa was once welcomed by throngs all over the country, as an emissary of Jesus and friend of the poor.

Yet Barrett has been questioned about her faith over time. Before the Supreme Court nomination, when she first ran for a federal judicial position, she was grilled by U.S. senators considering her confirmation. "The dogma lives loudly within you," Sen. Dianne Feinstein said in what was seen by many as an anti-Catholic slur.

Luckily, I was taught as a seminarian back in the 1980s, to wear such sayings as a badge of pride.

Today, there's almost 1.3 billion Roman Catholics in the world and about 70 million in the U.S. and we're still both reviled and respected.

Catholics on one hand play prominent roles in American's political and government system. Former Vice President Joe Biden, a Catholic, could be the next U.S. president. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, unarguably the most powerful woman in the country, is a proud and devout Catholic. And now, Barrett will likely be the next Supreme Court judge, joining five other Catholic justices, including Chief Justice John Roberts. There are also 22 senators who are Catholic and 141 members of the U.S. House.

Most people now see Catholics as "acceptable" and will elect them to positions of power. But Barrett has received some criticism on how her religion could influence any court decisions. Former senator Joe Lieberman, an active Jewish politician and populist centrist, has called attacks on Barrett's, or anyone's religion, "abhorrent". I couldn't agree with him more.

If anything, Biden unfairly gets a free pass on his faith, despite that he is proudly pro-choice, which the U.S. Bishops and various popes have said is the "preeminent" issue of our times.

Still, the reality is that U.S. Catholics make up a wide range of people: social justice proponents, spiritualists, cradle Catholics, Christmas and Easter Catholics and Catholics in name only. They're all Catholics, some respected, some reviled. As James Joyce, a sometimes Irish Catholic, once put it bluntly: "The Catholic church, here comes everybody."

Some Catholics are more popular than others. Liberal Catholics are widely accepted. Think the politician John Kerry and actor Martin Sheen in Hollywood. Meanwhile, orthodox Catholics are outcast. Pope John Paul heralded neo-orthodoxy and was warmly welcomed as an outlier pope, but also a stern enforcer of faith. Now, Pope Francis has won over many secularists and revived social justice Catholics, environmentalists and never-Trumpers.

You would think that Barrett would be accepted because she has so many contemporary, feminist and lean-in movement boxes checked. She is a working mom, devoted to seven children, including two adoptees from Haiti and one son with Down syndrome. She drives kid carpools and participates in outreach to the poor. Her marriage is equitable. Yes, some dogma does live in her. And that is a good thing. She is an accomplished academician and jurist, and you would think she would get some senatorial affirmation. Instead, you hear they're aiming at her faith, and that she is anti-abortion, and thus a threat to abortion rights and health care. Reviled.

It's been said the last acceptable prejudice in the United States is anti-Catholicism, even though JFK eventually became a political rock star. Barrett, as she goes through confirmation, will both be skewered and showered with praise. In the process the hopes of working moms, spiritualists and humanists is being rejuvenated.

COVID-19

From Page 8

Among that report's findings: "State and nonstate actors in many countries are now exploiting opportunities created by the pandemic to shape online narratives, censor critical speech, and build new technological systems of social control."

The timing couldn't be worse: "The COVID-19 pandemic has really accelerated society's reliance on digital technologies, but this comes at a time when it is less free," Slipowitz, the report's co-author, said.

The pandemic crackdown across so many countries should put America's domestic debate over mask mandates and other mitigation efforts into context. It's not tyranny, but responsibility, that's leading governments to try to slow the spread of a virus that's costing lives and livelihoods. Indeed, said Slipowitz, "I would put that into perspective and highlight the different restrictions that are happening around the world now and how they are undermining people's political rights and civil liberties in really severe ways."

Recognizing and respecting this difference would go a long way toward a more productive, constructive debate here at home.

(c) 2020 *Star Tribune* (Minneapolis)

MAKE

From Page 8

viral, but Buttigieg pulled it off—and from the comfort of his irritatingly immaculate kitchen, no less.

Certainly, he's come a long way since April, when Room Rater gave him a 4/10 for a "Morning Joe" interview conducted in front of a bookshelf with a highly regrettable haircut. "Pete on the dangers of cutting one's own hair," the arbiter of work-from-home backgrounds tweeted.

Now, with his quarantine buzz cut 'n' beard grown back and gone, respectively, Mayor Pete is scoring nothing but perfect 10s, at least on liberal social media, which just last night circulated his 2019 answer to questions about late-term abortions, often with grateful weeping emojis.

The Biden/Harris campaign, naturally, has expressed gratitude for Buttigieg's high-visibility support (on top of everything else, he does a mean Mike Pence impersonation), and it would be wise for them to continue to do so. It is easier for candidate supporters to offer lacerating commentary than it is for the candidates themselves—that's why every candidate has a coterie of surrogates. But it's hard to think of one who has been quite as effective, particularly during a news cycle that threatens to be overrun by the president's reaction—physical, political and psychological—to his COVID-19 diagnosis.

Never mind the Room Rater score; during the Democratic primary race, Buttigieg was often dinged for seeming dull, intellectual and, frankly, a bit nerdy. Even then, this was pretty hilarious, given the fact that he was not only the first openly gay presidential candidate but also the first openly gay presidential candidate who saw active service in the military.

Now it's even more hilarious and, frankly, a bit startling because now we know better. Now we know that what lies behind that white shirt, dark tie and "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" face is not a policy wonk but a rhetorical assassin. With a loving husband, a really nice kitchen and deadly aim.

So, as Lin-Manuel Miranda (of whom Buttigieg and his husband, Chasten, are fans) asked in "Hamilton," what do we think, "Treasury or State?"

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A tremendous loss for the CNMI

A few days ago, the CNMI experienced a tremendous loss of a humble and dedicated public servant. As the administrator for the CNMI Scholarship Office since 2012, Rose Pangelinan Camacho was a true advocate for the advancement of college students throughout the Commonwealth.

It has been my sincere pleasure to work with Rose and to witness her passion for making college education accessible to all. As the CNMI WICHE commissioner since 2013, I often met with Rose to discuss how to offer WICHE's financial aid programs through the CNMI Scholarship Office. Rose was deeply involved in this effort and played a central role in maximizing our benefit from our WICHE membership. Through Rose's work, CNMI students now have increased access to financial assistance at the undergraduate and graduate level. Notably, Rose guided me as I authored Senate Bill 20-0, now Public Law 20-08, establishing the Professional Student Exchange Program, which offers financial support to CNMI students seeking medical degrees.

Most recently, Rose and I worked together to provide much-needed information in support of a bill to establish a Behavioral Health Scholarship Program in the CNMI. This program would provide financial assistance to students seeking graduate degrees in behavioral and mental health fields. As this bill makes its way through the Senate, it appears that Rose's work and advocacy continues even beyond her earthly life.

Rose understood the importance of her role. She made it a priority to ensure all CNMI students knew how the Scholarship Office can help them achieve their goals. Rose also did not hesitate to fight for the sustainability of the CNMI Scholarship Program amid natural disasters and poor economic conditions. Just in the last few weeks, Rose was in constant communication with the Senate, urging us not to touch the CNMI Scholarship Revolving Fund. Knowing full well what these funds meant for the CNMI's future, she personally ensured that no scholarship earmark would be diverted away from our students. I hope all current and former CNMI Scholarship recipients understand that she cared about you deeply, even up to her final days.

On a personal level, I've known Rose to be an active community member full of character, energy, and great ideas. She was a loving wife and mother who put her family first, and I know for a fact she was a great listener, because in my own time of need, Rose was there to lend an ear.

Rose affected so many lives for the better through her hard work and commitment to higher education. She will be dearly missed. On behalf of the president and members of the 21st CNMI Senate and the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education – CNMI, we extend our gratitude to Rose for her many contributions to the CNMI, and our deepest condolences to Rose's husband, children, and family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

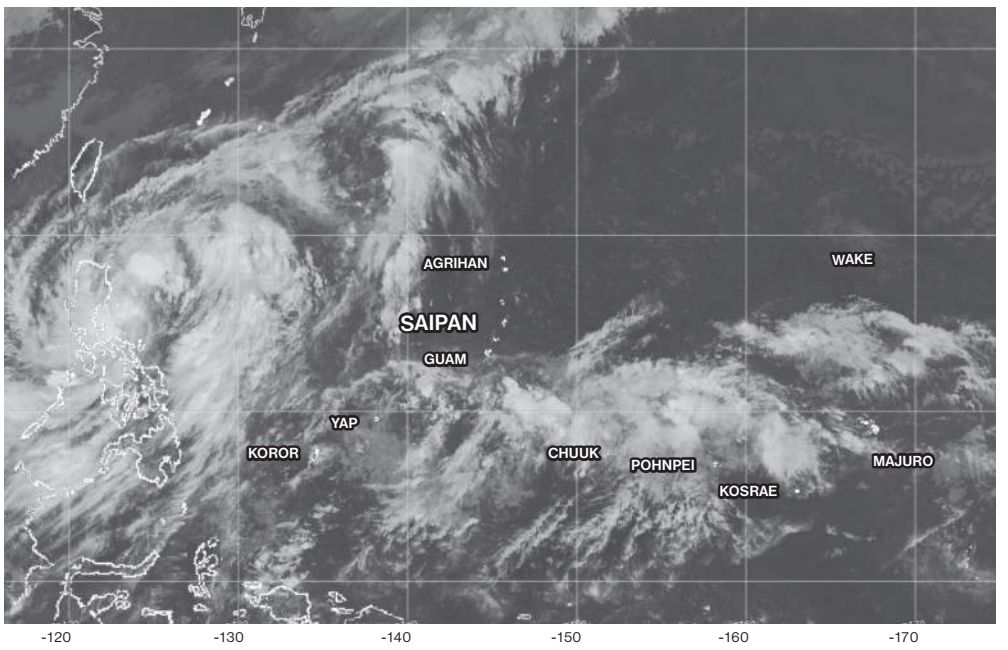
Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider
21st Legislature, Capital Hill

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
88° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:00 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak surface trough just west of the Mariana Islands will shift away to the west today. A second weak trough north of Chuuk will approach from the east Friday into the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	83° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	89° / 78°
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	89° / 78°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	87° / 82°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:09 AM	5:53 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Saturday	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Sunday	6:10 AM	5:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:29 AM	9:59 PM	-
Thursday	11:29 AM	10:58 PM	-
Friday	12:25 PM	11:55 PM	-
Saturday	1:16 PM	-	-
Sunday	-	12:50 AM	2:02 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	64° / 55°
Beijing	Sunny	63° / 45°
Hong Kong	Sunny	82° / 73°
Honolulu	Thunderstorms	82° / 72°
London	Showers	63° / 55°
Los Angeles	Sunny	100° / 72°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 75°
Melbourne	Cloudy	70° / 54°
Miami	Showers	85° / 79°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	73° / 67°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	66° / 55°
Paris	Showers	57° / 55°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	66° / 52°
Rome	Cloudy	68° / 48°
Salem	Showers	72° / 52°
San Francisco	Sunny	75° / 56°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	64° / 45°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	64° / 54°
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	75° / 66°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
4:48 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.39
11:58 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.84
5:31 PM	LOW TIDE	1.17
10:06 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.74

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4
UA117	7:50am	8:30am	6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:30am	9:10pm	1 via Guam

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	7:25pm	9:10pm	1 via Guam
UA183	9:05pm	10:50pm	5 via Guam

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4
UA174	6:15am	6:56am	6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	11:45pm	6:56am+1	5 via Guam

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25pm	4:25am+1	1 via Guam
UA184	11:45pm	5:33am+1	5 via Guam

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ❏ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- ❏ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ❏ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❏ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2020

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Business

CONTIRBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Creations is located along Micro Beach Road in Garapan.

CONTIRBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Creations was established in August last year with the intention of supporting and promoting local products.

Marianas Creations reopens tomorrow

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Marianas Creations is back in business starting tomorrow after eight months of closing its doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Owner Elina Gharti Chhetri said they timed their re-opening with the upcoming Christmas season.

"The holidays are getting closer and we would love our local community to have the option of choosing and supporting local products as their holiday gifts for their friends and family. Also, the CNMI community has been at condition blue with no community transmission for several months that is why we feel confident that we can provide a safe environment for our customers while they enjoy local products."

A café and mini pub located along Micro Beach Road, Marianas Creations is known for promoting local products, artists, and events.

"Health and safety is our top priority and we require all of our customers to wear masks before entering our establishment and use hand sanitizer. We have deep-cleaned our shop after we shut down due to the public health emergency, hand sanitizers are available on every table, and we will be cleaning our tables repeatedly during and after our business hours," said Chhetri.

Part of their plans is reopening with several new items on their food menu. "Of course, all of these new food items will include local ingredients. We will also have happy hour specials from 4pm to 6pm and we encourage everyone to stay tuned to our social media pages for information about upcoming features and specials," Chhetri added.

"Due to social distancing limitation, we won't be hosting any special events initially. We care about the health and safety of our community but we hope to gradually increase our business hours and resume our special events…Our goal here is to see how the community responds and we hope to change our business hours back to being open daily… When the [Governor's] COVID-19 Task Force transitions the community to condition green, we will welcome all of our fans back," Chhetri added.

Marianas Creations has new business hours as they are open Thursday and Friday from 3pm to 9pm. For more information, call (670) 783-1924 or visit their Facebook page: Marianas Creations and Instagram: marianascreationssaipan.

Deadline looms, but COVID relief deal may be far off

WASHINGTON (AP)— House Speaker Nancy Pelosi reported some progress in advance of a Tuesday deadline for reaching a pre-election deal with President Donald Trump on a new coronavirus relief package, but the same core problems bedeviling the effort remain in place despite optimistic talk from the president and his team.

Pelosi negotiated for nearly an hour Monday with Trump's top emissary, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, and her office said they are continuing to narrow their differences.

"Finally, they have come to the table and we're going to try to get something done," Pelosi said on MSNBC Monday evening. She said the two sides would take stock on Tuesday, which she has staked out as the deadline if a deal is to be reached before the election.

"Let's make a judgment. We may not like this, we may not like that but let's see on balance if we can go forward," Pelosi said.

But with time nearly up for Congress and the White House to deliver aid to Americans before the election, the question remains: If not now, when?

It's a key consideration for Trump, who has talked up the prospect of another package as he asks voters for a second term, and for Democrats hopeful that their nominee, Joe Biden, is on the cusp of winning the White House in November.

"Nancy Pelosi at this moment does not want to do anything that's going to affect the election," Trump said during a campaign swing in Arizona.

The dynamic has created a tricky position for Pelosi, whose tough approach to the talks amid durable GOP opposition to a potential deal of almost $2 trillion has left all sides staring at the very real potential of the negotiations failing. Pelosi is angling for the best deal she can get — maybe that's now, maybe it's later. It's a risk she's willing to take.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, meanwhile, is pushing ahead with votes this week on GOP measures that stand little chance of advancing.

Trump has upped his offer to $1.8 trillion or more and insisted Monday that "the Republicans will come along" if a deal is reached. His chief of staff and communications director took to Fox News to offer optimistic takes. But Republicans have spent months talking about a smaller aid package and the top GOP vote-counter, Sen. John Thune, said Monday that "it would be hard" to find the necessary Republican support for passage of any agreement in that range.

Report showing gains in bank access overshadowed by COVID

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)— More Americans than ever obtained a basic bank account in 2019, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. said Monday. But data was gathered before the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic and start of this historic recession.

But the agency noted that the loss of jobs and incomes due to the pandemic in 2020 likely reversed these positive trends.

The FDIC study looks at the unbanked — Americans who do not have a basic checking or savings account — and the reasons why these individuals are outside the traditional bank system. While a small number of Americans choose not to have a bank account due to their distrust of the banking system, most unbanked are in poverty and more likely to be Black and Latino, a remnant of the systemic racism that plagues the financial system.

The FDIC estimates that 5.4% of Americans in 2019 were considered unbanked, a record low for that metric since the report started in 2009, down from 6.5% in 2017 which is when the FDIC looked at the unbanked. That is equal to roughly 7.1 million households, the FDIC said.

The 5.4% figure does not tell the full story, mostly because racial and ethnic minorities are disproportionately more likely to be unbanked. The FDIC study shows only 2.5% of white households are unbanked, while 13.8% of Black households and 12.2% of Hispanic households are considered unbanked. Roughly one out of four households making less than $15,000 a year do not have a bank account.

The FDIC was unable to give an estimate on how much the COVID pandemic has moved banked Americans into the unbanked, but it almost certain that figure is climbing currently. The Great Recession caused millions of Americans to lose their bank account, and the number of unbanked hit a record high of 8.2% in 2011 in the aftermath of the financial crisis. Further the pandemic has caused job losses mostly for workers who need to be physically present for their jobs—restaurant workers, bartenders, theater workers, those working in retail, etc. Many of these jobs are lower paying and have fewer steady paychecks compared to the typically white-collar office worker now working remotely.

"Taken together, these data suggest that the unbanked rate is likely to rise from its level just before the pandemic," the FDIC said in its report.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
28,195.42	3,426.92	11,478.88
−410.89	−56.89	−192.67
1.44%	1.63%	1.65%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.4192	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7498	Russian Ruble	76.5707
British Pound	0.7719	Indian Rupee	73.0090	Singapore Dollar	1.3569
Canadian Dollar	1.3188	Japanese Yen	105.5490	South Korean Won	1118.27
Chinese Yuan	6.5964	Malaysian Ringgit	4.1118	Swiss Franc	0.9100
Euro	0.8488	New Zealand Dollar	1.5187	Taiwan Dollar	28.3240
		Philippine Peso	47.7383	Thailand Baht	31.2270

Nation

Trump 'running angry,' attacks polls, press and Dr. Fauci

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)— An angry President Donald Trump came out swinging Monday against Dr. Anthony Fauci, the press and polls that show him trailing Democrat Joe Biden in key battleground states in a disjointed closing message two weeks out from Election Day.

On the third day of a western campaign swing, Trump was facing intense pressure to turn around his campaign, hoping for the type of last-minute surge that gave him a come-from-behind victory four years ago. But his inconsistent message, another rise in virus cases and his attacks on experts like Fauci could undermine his final efforts to appeal to voters outside his most loyal base.

"I'm not running scared," Trump told reporters before taking off for Tucson, Arizona, for his fifth rally in three days. "I think I'm running angry. I'm running happy and I'm running very content 'cause I've done a great job."

His aggressive travel comes as Trump plays defense in states he won four years ago, though the president insisted he was confident as he executed a packed schedule despite the pandemic.

"We're going to win," he told campaign staff on a morning conference call from Las Vegas. He went on to acknowledge that he "wouldn't have told you that maybe two or three weeks ago," referring to the days when he was hospitalized with COVID-19. But he said he felt better now than at any point in 2016. "We're in the best shape we've ever been," he said.

Seeking to shore up the morale of his staff amid growing private concerns that he is running out of time to make up lost ground, Trump blasted his government's own scientific experts as too negative, even as his handling of the pandemic that has killed nearly 220,000 Americans remains a central issue to voters.

"People are tired of hearing Fauci and all these idiots," Trump said of the government's top infectious disease expert. "Every time he goes on television, there's always a bomb. But there's a bigger bomb if you fire him. But Fauci's a disaster."

At a rally in Prescott, Arizona, Trump assailed Biden for pledging to heed the advice of scientific experts, saying dismissively that his rival "wants to listen to Dr. Fauci."

The doctor is both respected and popular, and Trump's rejection of scientific advice on the pandemic has already drawn bipartisan condemnation.

At his rally, Trump also ramped up his attacks on the news media, singling out NBC's Kristen Welker, the moderator of the next presidential debate, as well as CNN for aggressively covering a pandemic that is now infecting tens of thousands of Americans every day.

Fauci, in an interview with CBS's "60 Minutes" that aired Sunday, said he was not surprised that Trump contracted the virus after he held a series of large events with few face coverings.

"I was worried that he was going to get sick when I saw him in a completely precarious situation of crowded, no separation between people, and almost nobody wearing a mask," Fauci said of the president.

Biden was off the campaign trail Monday, but his campaign praised Fauci and criticized Trump for "reckless and negligent leadership" that "threatens to put more lives at risk."

"Trump's closing message in the final days of the 2020 race is to publicly mock Joe Biden for trusting science and to call Dr. Fauci, the leading public health official on COVID-19, a 'disaster' and other public health officials 'idiots,'" the campaign said.

Monday's professed confidence in victory stood in contrast to some of Trump's other public comments in recent days reflecting on the prospect that he could lose.

"Could you imagine if I lose my whole life? What am I going to do?" he asked a rally crowd last week in Macon, Georgia. "I'm not going to feel so good. Maybe I'll have to leave the country. I don't know."

AP

President Donald Trump gestures as he talks about Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden as he speaks at a campaign rally Monday, Oct. 19, 2020, in Tucson, Ariz.

6 Russian military officers charged in vast hacking campaign

WASHINGTON (AP)— The Justice Department announced charges Monday against Russian intelligence officers in a string of global cyberattacks that targeted a French presidential election, the Winter Olympics in South Korea and American businesses. The case implicates the same Kremlin unit that interfered in the 2016 U.S. elections, but is not related to the November vote.

The indictment accuses the six defendants, all said to be current and former officers in the Russian military intelligence agency known as the GRU, of hacks that prosecutors say were aimed at furthering the Kremlin's geopolitical interests and in destabilizing or punishing perceived enemies. All told, the attacks caused billions of dollars in losses and disrupted a broad cross-section of life, including health care in Pennsylvania, a power grid serving hundreds of thousands of customers in Ukraine and a French election that saw the late-stage disclosure of hacked emails.

The seven-count indictment is the most recent in a series of Justice Department prosecutions of Russian hackers, often working on behalf of the government. Past cases have focused on attacks against targets like internet giant Yahoo and the 2016 presidential contest, when Russian hackers from the GRU stole Democratic emails that were released online in the weeks before the election.

The attacks in this case are "some of the most destructive, most costly, most egregious cyber attacks ever known," said Scott Brady, the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, where the 50-page indictment was filed.

"Time and again, Russia has made it clear: They will not abide by accepted norms, and instead, they intend to continue their destructive, destabilizing cyber behavior," said FBI Deputy Director David Bowdich.

The indictment does not charge the defendants in connection with interference in American elections, though the officers are part of the same intelligence unit that prosecutors say interfered in the 2016 U.S. election. One of the six charged in the case announced Monday was among the Russian military intelligence officers charged with hacking in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian election interference.

The timing of the indictment was unrelated to the upcoming election in the U.S., said Assistant Attorney General John Demers. He said that despite ongoing warnings of Russian interference in the election, Americans "should be confident that a vote cast for their candidate will be counted for that candidate."

The hacking targets described in Monday's case are diverse, with the indictment fleshing out details about attacks that in some instances had already received significant attention because of the havoc they had caused.

Senate to work through weekend to push Barrett onto court

WASHINGTON (AP)— Wasting no time, the Senate is on track to confirm Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court by next Monday, charging toward a rare weekend session as Republicans push past procedural steps to install President Donald Trump's pick before Election Day.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said he will begin the process as soon as the Senate Judiciary Committee wraps up its work Thursday. With a 53-47 Republican majority, and just two GOP senators opposed, Trump's nominee is on a glide path to confirmation that will seal a conservative hold on the court for years to come.

McConnell said Monday that Barrett demonstrated over several days of public hearings the "sheer intellectual horsepower that the American people deserve to have on the Supreme Court."

Without the votes to stop Barrett's ascent, Democrats have few options left. They are searching for two more GOP senators to break ranks and halt confirmation, but that seems unlikely. Never before as a court nominee been voted on so close to a presidential election.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer decried what he called the "farcical" process to "jam" through Trump's choice, even as the coronavirus outbreak sidelined GOP senators.

"The Republican majority is running the most hypocritical, most partisan and least legitimate process in the history of Supreme Court confirmations," he said during speech as the Senate opened.

The Senate Judiciary Committee is set to meet Thursday to vote on recommending Barrett's nomination to the full Senate.

By Friday, procedural votes are expected, continuing over the weekend as Republicans push through the steps for a final vote to confirm Barrett as soon as Monday.

The 48-year-old appellate court judge from Indiana delivered few specific answers during several days of public testimony as senators probed her previously outspoken views against abortion, the Affordable Care Act and other issues before the court. She declined to say whether she would recuse herself from cases involving the election between Trump and Democrat Joe Biden.

Trump has said he wants the judge seated in time to hear any potential disputes from the Nov. 3 election. He also has said he's looking for a judge who would rule against the Obama-era health care law, which is headed to the court in a case justices are expected to hear Nov. 10.

If confirmed, Barrett would be Trump's third justice on the court. She would fill the vacancy from the late Ruth Bader Ginsberg, the liberal icon, locking in a 6-3 conservative majority on the high court.

Asia

AFTER STAFFERS FIGHT IN FIJI

Taiwan, China trade accusations

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—China and Taiwan traded accusations Monday over a violent altercation that broke out between Chinese diplomats and Taiwan government employees at a recent Taiwan National Day reception in Fiji.

Both China and Taiwan confirmed the Oct. 8 incident but each disputed the other's claim of what precipitated the fight, which resulted in one Taiwanese staffer being sent to a hospital with a head injury. One of the Chinese diplomats also was injured.

The confrontation, an extreme example of the tensions between the rival governments, erupted when Taiwanese at the gathering tried to stop Chinese diplomats from taking photos of guests at the reception marking Taiwan's national day and disrupting the event, according to a statement from Taiwan's Foreign Ministry.

"We strongly condemn the violence against our diplomat in Fiji by China's uncivilized 'wolf warriors,'' Taiwan's Foreign Minister Joseph Wu said Twitter late on Monday. "As a sovereign state, we'll continue celebrating #TaiwanNationalDay everywhere, every year. Taiwan is a force for good in the world & we won't be intimidated.''

The ministry said Taiwan had made a formal protest to the Fiji government.

China's embassy in Fiji said in a statement released Monday that Taiwan's account was "inconsistent with the facts.'' It said one of its staff also was injured.

AP

In this Jan. 31, 2018, file photo, a Taiwanese military officer salutes to Taiwan's flag onboard Navy's 124th fleet Lafayette frigate during military exercises off Kaohsiung, southern of Taiwan.

"On that very evening, the staff of the Taipei Trade Office in Fiji acted provocatively against the Chinese Embassy staff who were carrying out their official duties in the public area outside the function venue, causing injuries and damage to one Chinese diplomat,'' the statement said.

The Chinese side also criticized the National Day celebration, saying it "violates the one-China principle and the relevant rules and regulations of the Fijian government, with an attempt to create 'two Chinas' or 'one China, one Taiwan' internationally,'' it added. The one-China principle refers to the idea that Taiwan, a self-ruled island democracy, is a part of China.

On Monday afternoon, China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman Zhao Lijian, criticized the flags and cake that the Taiwanese side displayed.

"Taipei's Trade office in Fiji on October 8 flagrantly held a 'so-called' national celebration event. The fake flag was publicly displayed on the scene, and the cake was also marked with a fake flag pattern,'' he said at a routine press briefing. Those actions "severely violate the one-China principle.''

Taiwan is recognized as an independent government by only 15 nations, most of them small and poor. But its democratically elected government has extensive commercial and informal ties with many nations.

China calls on India to honor pledge, return missing soldier

BEIJING (AP)—China's military says it hopes India will make good on its pledge to swiftly return a Chinese soldier found lost along their mountainous border where the sides have been locked in a tense standoff.

The defense ministry issued a statement late Monday saying the soldier had been helping herders round up yaks when he lost his way on Sunday evening.

The Chinese side informed their Indian counterparts of the missing individual and were informed shortly afterward that he had been found and would be returned after undergoing a medical checkup, a spokesperson for the Western Theater Command, Zhang Shuili, was quoted as saying.

A statement from the Indian side Monday said the soldier, Cpl. Wang Ya Long was apprehended inside Indian-controlled Ladakh's Demchok area and was to be released soon.

It said the soldier "had strayed'' across the de facto border along the eastern section of what's known as the Line of Actual Control, a loose demarcation separating Indian- and Chinese-controlled areas.

"As per established protocols, he will be returned back to Chinese officials at the Chushul–Moldo meeting point after completion of formalities,'' the statement said.

The high-altitude standoff began in early May with a fierce brawl, and exploded into hand-to-hand combat with clubs, stones and fists on June 15 that left 20 Indian soldiers dead. China is believed to also have had casualties, but has not given any details.

China detained at least 10 Indian soldiers, including four officers, following the deadly brawl. They were returned three days later after intense military and diplomatic negotiations.

India and China have each stationed tens of thousands of soldiers backed by artillery, tanks and fighter jets and are bracing for a harsh winter in the cold-desert region, where temperatures can fall to minus 50 degrees Celsius (minus 58 Fahrenheit).

The nuclear-armed rivals have accused each other of crossing into rival territory and of firing shots for the first time in 45 years.

Relations between the two countries have often been strained, partly due to their undemarcated border. They fought a border war in 1962 that spilled into Ladakh and ended in an uneasy truce. Since then, troops have guarded the undefined border and occasionally brawled. They have agreed not to attack each other with firearms.

India unilaterally declared Ladakh a federal territory and separated it from disputed Kashmir in August 2019, ending Indian-administered Kashmir's semi-autonomous status. It also vowed to take back the Aksai Chin plateau.

China was among the first countries to strongly condemn the move, raising it at international forums including the U.N. Security Council.

World

AS VIRUS SURGES

Iran breaks 1-day record for deaths

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran's single-day death toll from the coronavirus smashed a record set less than a week ago, with 337 dead confirmed Monday as a resurgence of infections is overwhelming hospitals.

On social media, Iranian news outlets dramatically dubbed the day "Black Monday'' and lamented the grim milestone — which represented a significant increase over Iran's previous one-day record of 279 set Wednesday.

The Islamic Republic emerged early in the pandemic as a global epicenter of the virus and has since seen the worst outbreak in the Middle East, with deaths topping 30,000, as fatalities have soared in recent weeks. Health officials announced last week that Iran's capital, Tehran, had run out of intensive care beds for virus patients, and overwhelmed hospitals across the city suspended all nonemergency treatments.

On Sunday, the Health Ministry reported that Dr. Mohammad Zare Joshaghani, the director of one of Tehran's biggest hospitals, had died of the virus—a reminder of the toll the pandemic has taken on health workers, in particular.

But the government has resisted a total lockdown because it does not want to further weaken an economy already devastated by unprecedented U.S. sanctions. On Monday, Health Ministry spokeswoman Sima Lari sought to shift responsibility for the surge to Iranians, scolding them for failing to take precautions.

"The current situation is the result of negligence in following health protocols, less usage of face masks and high-risk social behaviors over the past weeks,'' she said.

During a national holiday this past weekend, thousands of Iranians defied a travel ban to flock to the Caspian Sea. Vacation-goers packed cafes, shops and restaurants along the north coast, largely without masks or social distancing.

But the outbreak in Iran has also been fueled by contradictory responses from the government. The current spike comes just weeks after schools nationwide welcomed back 15 million students for in-person instruction, only to shut down again in Tehran as infections swelled.

With the death toll skyrocketing, authorities are now starting to impose more restrictions. The government closed museums, libraries, beauty salons and other public places in Tehran earlier this month, and imposed a mask mandate outdoors.

For the first time, security forces have started deploying to fine those caught without masks. Yet enforcement remains a challenge in the sprawling capital.

Gen. Hossein Rahimi, Tehran's police chief, said on Sunday that over the past week, police have collected fines from 42 people in Tehran — a city of 10 million people. Still, authorities promise tougher action against those flouting the rules, with Rahimi saying that the "verbal warnings will end soon.''

After Iran was an early hot spot of the virus, infections declined somewhat in April when authorities briefly and sporadically imposed restrictions. But cases began surging again in July—and have continued to soar. The country has confirmed more than 530,000 infections, according to data collected by Johns Hopkins University—although such tolls are widely considered to understate the true dimensions of the outbreak because of limited testing, missed cases and concealment by some governments.

Morales party claims win as Bolivia seems to shift back left

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP)—Bolivia appeared Monday to be shifting sharply away from the conservative policies of the U.S.-backed interim government that took power last year after leftist President Evo Morales resigned, with the self-exiled leader's party claiming victory in a weekend presidential election.

The leading rival of Morales's handpicked successor, Luis Arce, conceded defeat as did interim President Jeanine Áñez, a bitter foe of Morales.

Officials released no formal, comprehensive quick count of results from Sunday's vote, but two independent surveys of selected polling places gave Arce a lead of roughly 20 percentage points over his closest rival—far more than needed to avoid a runoff.

Áñez asked Arce "to govern with Bolivia and democracy in mind.''

Arce, meanwhile, appealed for calm in the bitterly divided nation saying he would seek to form a government of national unity under his Movement Toward Socialism party.

"I think the Bolivian people want to retake the path we were on,'' Arce declared, surrounded by a small group of supporters, some of them in traditional Andean dress in honor of the country's Indigenous roots.

To win in the first round, a candidate needs more than 50% of the vote, or 40% with a lead of at least 10 percentage points over the second-place candidate. The independent counts, sponsored by the Catholic Church and civic groups, indicated Arce had a little over 50% of the vote and a roughly 20-point advantage over centrist former President Carlos Mesa, who acknowledged defeat.

The formal official count showed Arce and Mesa in a close race for much of Monday, but by the night Arce was pulling away. With about 40% of ballots counted, Arce had over 45% and Mesa had about 35%. The early counted votes appeared to be largely from urban areas rather than the rural heartlands that have been the base of support for Morales and his movement. Officials said final results could take days.

Arce, who oversaw a surge in growth and a sharp reduction in poverty as Morales' economy minister for more than a decade, will struggle to reignite that growth. The boom in prices for Bolivia's mineral exports that helped feed that progress has faded, and the new coronavirus has hit impoverished, landlocked Bolivia harder than almost any other country on a per capita basis. Nearly 8,400 of its 11.6 million people have died of COVID-19.

Arce, 57, also faces the challenge of emerging from the long shadow of his former boss, who remains polarizing but whose support enabled the low-key, British-educated economist to mount a strong campaign.

Good Housekeeping

Timely Halloween costumes:

From Baby Yoda to Black Panther to '2020 Dumpster Fire,' the top 10 looks to buy, rent or DIY

Baby Yoda is internet royalty, so costumes abound this Halloween. DREAMSTIME/TNS

By NARA SCHOENBERG
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

At Chicago Costume, owner Mary Hickey Panayotou is making Ruth Bader Ginsburg collars.

The shop is seeing strong interest in Black Panther costumes, a tribute to the actor Chadwick Boseman, who died in August at age 43.

Baby Yoda is hot; and starry-eyed kids are also going for essential worker costumes, particularly firefighters, according to Chicago Costume general manager Courtland Hickey.

Timely Halloween costumes are always in style, but 2020, with its avalanche of news and pop culture, has yielded a particularly striking array of options for DIYers, renters and buyers alike.

Here are the top 10 ways to stand out, pay homage or make a statement:

'Tiger King' or queen

Fascination with the swashbuckling big-cat owner Joseph "Joe Exotic" Maldonado-Passage continues, with full-fledged costumes available online and plenty of accessories for DIYers, from cowboy hats to sequined shirts and blond mullet wigs. Consider teaming with a family member dressed as a tiger. If you go with Joe Exotic's nemesis, Carole Baskin, you'll want a leopard-print shirt, animal-print leggings, flowing blond hair, and a garland of flowers to top your head. Bonus points for a flower-festooned bicycle with a stuffed tiger in the basket.

Baby Yoda

Baby Yoda, from the "Star Wars" TV series "The Mandalorian," is internet royalty by now, and a new installment of the show launches Oct. 30. Costumes abound, including a ridiculously cute crocheted baby option from Amazon and a ready-to-go offering from Chicago Costume.

2020 dumpster fire

This has been a tough year for humans but a good year for memes, including "2020 Dumpster Fire," which lends itself well to DIY efforts. You'll need a cardboard box painted dumpster green, with poster board flames emerging and 2020 written across the front.

'Black Panther'

Chadwick Boseman's 2018 performance as Marvel's trailblazing Black superhero is on our minds again, due to the beloved actor's untimely death. Interest is strong at Chicago Costume, one of many sources for a complete look. The first major superhero movie starring an African character, "Black Panther" was a critical and commercial success and a cultural milestone.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

The Supreme Court Justice was already a star, an acronym (RBG) _ and a Halloween costume—before her death Sept. 18 refocused attention on her legal accomplishments and her role as a champion of women's rights. The costume is simple: a black robe, a lacy collar, big dark glasses and hair tied back smoothly in a small, neat ponytail—scrunchy optional.

Beyonce in 'Black Is King'

Here's your chance to model some of the most iconic looks of the year—the animal print bodysuit, the graphic black and white suit jacket with shoulders a mile wide, the head wraps, mirror glasses, the glitter and the feathers.

'Hamilton'

In 2020, Disney brought "Hamilton" to the people with a televised edition of the blockbuster play. Now you can bring Hamilton _ or one of the spirited Schuyler sisters—to your Zoom Halloween party.

'Handmaid's Tale'

With the fight over control of the U.S. Supreme Court reaching a fever pitch, the Handmaid costume is once again timely. Everyone from Etsy to Spirit Halloween to Target is offering an option. Or maybe you still have your costume from last year.

'Among Us' spacemen

You could go for your favorite character from the blockbuster video game "Animal Crossing," which won over quarantine-weary Americans with its sweet domestic pleasures and cooperative candy-colored animals. But Chicago Costume reports there's a new video game sensation in town. Twenty-somethings are embracing the spacemen murder mystery "Among Us" and looking for ways to make DIY costumes. Basically, you'll need monochrome pajamas—preferably onesies—and lab goggles or a space helmet.

Sourdough starter

A nod to the bread-baking craze of early quarantine, this is one you will probably have to DIY. Starter is pale and bubbly, and often displayed in a glass Mason jar. Think white or cream-colored poster board, and cotton balls or small pale balloons for texture. Add a "Sourdough Starter" label, and you're good to go.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

†Jesus Mulemar Mettao

Born on January 30, 1945
Called to Eternal Life on October 13, 2020

He is survived by his:
Common Law Spouse: Consolacion Hocog Naputi
Children and Grandchildren:
Sarah Elizabeth Naputi/ †Ricardo Borja
(Lory Lynn Borja, Colleen Borja, †Richard Jr. Borja, †Idalynn Naputi)
Henry/ Harriett Naputi (Darsky Naputi, Darr Naputi, Perissa Naputi, Darton Naputi, Irvin Okaruru)
George Naputi (Connie/John Techur), (Sean Naputi/Chelsea Sablan), (Jesse Ryan Naputi, Michael Flores)
Michael/ Eleonor Naputi (Mikilynna/ Aaron Taitano) (Miguel Naputi/ Toricah Santos) (Michael/Gerlita Sanchez)
Mary Evyonne/ Larry Surigao (Metgot Larry Surigao, Tonyrose Surigao, Jarren Surigao)
Vincent Mettao/ Dianne Villegas (Vianny Mettao, Jerome Mettao, Consolacion Mettao, Eleazir Mettao, Julian Mettao, Vincent Jr., Ina Mettao, Janu Mettao))
Colleen Borja/ Nick Ayuyu

Great Grand Children:
Matias Jesus, Lydia Lynn, Jonisha, Jomeka, Richard, Jarika, Tasi, Makaio, Ricardo, Catalina, Jonathan, Allison, Skyler, Jessiah, Darson, Kacia, Damon, Darr Jr., Darise, Darvin, Jessey, Jordyn, Athan Ezekiel, Alek Michael

Brothers and Sisters:
†Carmen Saures and children/children in-law, †Nicanor Mettao / Natividad Nepaial and children/children in-law, †Isidro Mettao / Susana Odoshi and children/children in-law, †Esteban Mettao / Dao Mettao and children/children in-law

Brothers and Sisters In-Law:
†Jose/ Hinara Naputi and children/ children in-law, Maria Saralu/ Boy Maglaqui and children/ children in-law
Antonio/ Maria Naputi and children/ children in-law, Elizabeth/ James Dudley and children/ children in-law, Rosa/ Ambro Ayuyu and children/ children in-law, Miguel Naputi/ †Barbara Ann Borja and children/ children in-law, Bernadita Naputi/ Angel Ayuyu and children/s, Lucia Ana H. Naputi and children/ children in-law

In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents:	†Jose P. Mettao & †Maria Mulemar
Parents In-Law:	†Enrique O. Naputi & †Sara H. Naputi
Brothers and Sister:	†Carmen M. Saures, †Nicanor M. Mettao, †Isidro M. Mettao, †Esteban M. Mettao
Grand Niece:	†Zelda N. Ayuyu
Grandson & Granddaughter:	†Jesse Ryan M. Naputi, †Richard N. Borja, †Idalynn N. Borja
Nieces:	†Reina S. Nedlie, †Maria N. Mettao
Nephews:	†Raphael S. Mettao, †Enrique B. Naputi
Son In-Law:	†Ricardo M. Borja
Sister In-Law:	†Rita S. Mettao
Brother and Sister In-Law:	†Francisco H. Naputi, +Vicente H. Naputi, †Juanita H. Naputi , †James F. Dudley, †Larry I. Saralu, †Matilde S. Naputi, †Barbara Ann Borja

Daily Mass is being offered at San Antonio Parish, St. Jude Parish. Holy Rosary is being offered after nightly Mass at the Residence of Lucia Ana H. Naputi, located in Chalan Kanoa district #3.

October 14, 2020 6:00 p.m. (San Antonio Parish)
October 15-20, 2020 6:00 p.m. (St. Jude Parish)

On Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 7:45 a.m., his remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to St. Jude Parish. Responsorial at 8:00 a.m., followed by the Holy Rosary and viewing at 8:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghilisow
Ginen I Familia

Life & Style

UK festival curator accuses UAE minister of sex assault

LONDON (AP)—The chair of Britain's Hay literary festival said Sunday the event will not return to Abu Dhabi after one of the festival's curators alleged that she was sexually assaulted by the tolerance minister of the United Arab Emirates while working with him. Lawyers for the minister later denied her account.

Nahyan

Caitlin McNamara alleged she was attacked in February by Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, a member of Abu Dhabi's ruling family, the Sunday Times reported.

The Times said McNamara, who had travelled to the UAE to work on the launch of the literary festival there, claimed she was assaulted by the sheikh when they met at a remote island villa.

British lawyers for Sheikh Nahyan denied McNamara's account, saying he was "surprised and saddened by this allegation."

The Foreign Ministry of the UAE, a federation of seven sheikhdoms on the Arabian Peninsula also home to Dubai, said it does not comment on personal matters. When asked about the case, Britain's Metropolitan Police confirmed that a woman contacted the force on July 3 to report an allegation of rape, and said an initial statement has been taken from her.

Jeff Bridges says he has lymphoma, cites good prognosis

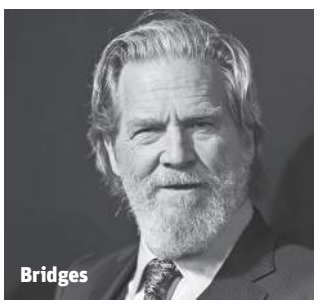
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jeff Bridges says he is being treated for lymphoma and his prognosis is good.

The 70-year-old actor channeled his The Dude character from "The Big Lebowski" in a statement on social media about the diagnosis Monday evening.

He said he understands the disease is serious. He expressed gratitude to his family, friends and medical team and promised to keep fans posted on his recovery.

Bridges is a seven-time Oscar nominee known for his roles in "Starman," "True Grit," "The Last Picture Show" and many other films. He won an Academy Award in 2010 for "Crazy Heart" and was most recently nominated for playing a grizzled lawman in "Hell or High Water."

The affable Bridges is considered Hollywood royalty, the son of actors Lloyd and Dorothy Bridges, who both died in 1998.


Bridges

Guitars played, partly made by Eddie Van Halen go to auction

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Two guitars owned, played and partly designed by the late Eddie Van Halen will be going up for auction.

A 2004 EVH Charvel Art Series electric guitar and a customized electric guitar Van Halen built at his home studio with his guitar tech Matt Bruck and given to a friend in 1991 will be among the items for sale at the event dubbed "Icons & Idols Trilogy: Rock 'N' Roll," starting Dec. 5, Julien's Auctions announced Monday.

Van Halen

Both guitars were hand-striped by Van Halen in the familiar style of most of his guitars dating back to the first Van Halen album in 1978. Each of the guitars is expected to fetch between $60,000 and $80,000.

The guitar legend and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer died of cancer on Oct. 6 at age 65.

The auction was in already in the works at the time.

"As we were preparing for our annual 'Icons & Idols: Rock and Roll' auction lineup, we were stunned to hear the sad news of Eddie Van Halen's passing last week," Julien's Auction's president Darren Julien said in a statement. "We are honored to include at this event two of his iconic guitars from his brilliant and blazing career as one of rock's greatest and most gifted guitar heroes."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Heard any Biden jokes? Study of late-night comics finds few

NEW YORK (AP)—From the perspective of late-night joke writers, there's really only one person running for president. A staggering 97% of the jokes Stephen Colbert and Jimmy Fallon told about the candidates in September targeted President Donald Trump, a study released Monday found. That's 455 jokes about Trump and 14 about Democrat Joe Biden, according to the Center for Media and Public Affairs at George Mason University. That doesn't even count 64 jokes made about Trump's family or administration, the study said. "When Trump's onstage, everyone else is blacked out," said Robert Lichter, communication professor at George Mason. He's been studying late-night humor and politics since 1992. Republicans are usually targeted more than Democrats by the comedy writers, but the difference has never been this stark. The closest was the 2016 campaign, when Trump was the punchline for 78% of the jokes to Hillary Clinton's 22%, the center said. That's good news if, like Biden, your goal is to essentially make Trump the central issue in the campaign. It may present a real challenge for the comics if Biden defeats Trump in next month's election, however. What will they have to poke fun at? "I think they will find a way to keep making jokes about Trump, even after he leaves office," Lichter said. There's precedent for that. In 2001, late-night comedians made former President Bill Clinton the subject of more jokes than his successor, George W. Bush, Lichter said.

John Oliver now has a sewage plant named after him

DANBURY, Conn. (AP)—Comedian John Oliver made a secret trip to Connecticut last week to help cut the ribbon on a sign naming a sewage treatment plant in his honor. Danbury's City Council voted earlier this month to rename the sewage plant "The John Oliver Memorial Sewer Plant," following a tongue-in-cheek battle that began with an expletive-filled rant against the city on HBO's "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver" in August. Mayor Mark Boughton responded to the attack by posting a video of himself at the sewage plant saying the city was going to name it after Oliver "because it's full of crap just like you, John." Oliver offered to donate $55,000 to local charities if Danbury actually followed through with the idea. Oliver shared a video of the ribbon-cutting on his show Sunday. During the ceremony, he wore a homemade protective suit, which appeared to be made from a white plastic trash bag, with rubber gloves and and a see-through plastic helmet. "This place takes the worst that humanity can produce, and transforms it into something that we can live with," Oliver said. "And now more than ever, there's something inspirational in that, because at the end of this awful, awful year, what could be more important than evidence that, if we want to, we can come together, overcome our differences and sort our s—- out." Boughton said Oliver's promised donations have helped spur local fundraising efforts for area food banks that could end up collecting hundreds of thousands of dollars to feed needy families. He said the ceremony was kept private as a public health precaution.

'Clouds,' by teen who died of cancer, hits No. 1 on iTunes

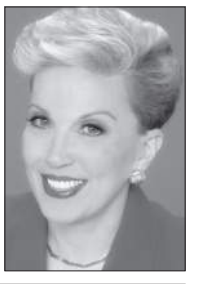
MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Seven years after his death to cancer at age 18, a Minnesota singer-songwriter has returned to the top of the iTunes chart with his inspirational tune "Clouds." The Star Tribune reports that "Clouds" by Zach Sobiech took over iTunes' No. 1 slot from Justin Bieber on Sunday, two days after the Hollywood movie of the same name based on Sobiech's life premiered on Disney+.The ranking is based on downloads of the song. The profits will add to the $2 million already raised for cancer research via Sobiech's namesake foundation. The single first climbed to the top of iTunes in 2013, shortly after the Stillwater-area teenager's death. He had been diagnosed with bone cancer four years earlier. By that point, the YouTube video that led to the song's ascent had been viewed 4 million times. It's up over 15 million now. The song also went to No. 26 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart and No. 3 on the rock singles chart. The movie is an adaptation of the memoir "Fly a Little Higher" by Zach's mother, Laura Sobiech.

Parents disapprove of new boyfriend of different race

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 22-year-old woman who was adopted. I recently started dating an amazing man who happens to be of another race. My parents, whom I love very much, told me that if I stay with him, they will disown me. They have made many horrible comments about my relationship, and I'm at a loss about what to do. I love them, but I also love my boyfriend. Please give me advice. What should I do?

HOPELESS IN INDIANA

DEAR HOPELESS: You need to figure out which is more important to you, the hope for a future with this amazing man who is new in your life, or your relationship with your parents. It's a tough choice to make, and there are variables to consider. Are you OK with your parents dictating who you can date in terms of race? Is this person as serious as you are about this new relationship? Are you financially and emotionally independent?

Start by making a list of the pros and the cons. Once you are finished, understanding that neither choice will be pain free, you may have a clearer idea of what your decision must be.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 30 years still desires me. I know he has been faithful. He's a wonderful father, has plenty of friends, a warm sense of humor and even in tough times has always managed to be a good provider. We have never wanted for anything.

He is in decent shape for his age, and some women have commented that he is handsome. Yet I recoil at his advances or pretend to be asleep. I feel like I owe him sex since it's part of marriage, and then I resent him because I feel I am letting him down.

NO DESIRE DOWN SOUTH

DEAR NO DESIRE: You need to figure out whether your negative reaction to your husband's advances is emotional or physical. Have you always felt this way, or is it (relatively) recent?

Hormonal changes as women age can be a reason for lack of libido, and if that's what's causing your problem, it is something you should talk about with your gynecologist because it may be fixable. Start there, because you owe this both to yourself and your husband.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My fiance and I decided to live together. Although I knew at the time that his cousin and two younger people lived in the house with him, he promised to make sure there was room for me and my 13-year-old son, who has Asperger's. However, things are tense in the house because someone is stealing my things, and no one will admit it. There is also constant fighting about how I should raise my son because everyone in the house has an opinion and wants to be his boss.

I am at my wits' end. I love my fiance, but I can't take much more of the anxiety they put me through. What should I do?

TORN IN TENNESSEE

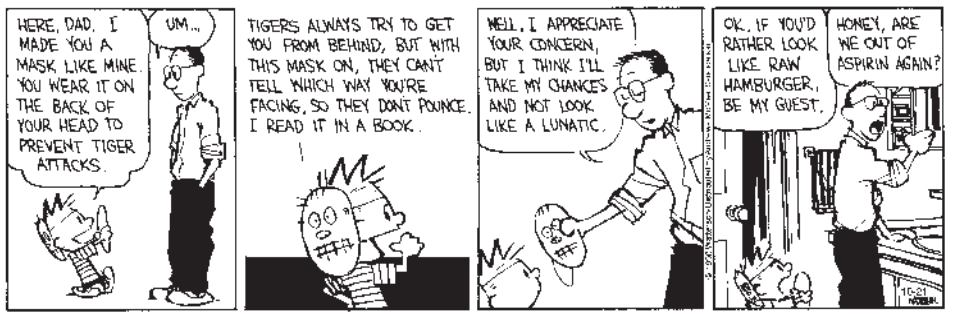
DEAR TORN: Have a frank conversation with your fiance about the fact that this living situation isn't working out for you. The two of you should then discuss options. The most obvious would be that some folks need to make other living arrangements—either you and your son, or the cousin and the two younger people. This doesn't necessarily mean the engagement has to be broken, but things cannot continue as they are.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HERE, DAD. I MADE YOU A MASK LIKE MINE. YOU WEAR IT ON THE BACK OF YOUR HEAD TO PREVENT TIGER ATTACKS.
UM...
TIGERS ALWAYS TRY TO GET YOU FROM BEHIND, BUT WITH THIS MASK ON, THEY CAN'T TELL WHICH WAY YOU'RE FACING, SO THEY DON'T POUNCE. I READ IT IN A BOOK.
WELL, I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN, BUT I THINK I'LL TAKE MY CHANCES AND NOT LOOK LIKE A LUNATIC.
OK. IF YOU'D RATHER LOOK LIKE RAW HAMBURGER, BE MY GUEST.
HONEY, ARE WE OUT OF ASPIRIN AGAIN?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

AND WHY DO WE NEED THIS ENORMOUS PUMPKIN?
PICTURE THIS: TRICK-OR-TREATERS STOP, AWED BY THE BIGGEST JACK-O-LANTERN THEY'VE EVER SEEN...
WHEN I JUMP OUT OF IT AND SCARE THE MILK DUDS OUT OF 'EM!
DO YOU TAKE CREDIT CARDS?
I'LL GO PUT THE BACK SEATS DOWN.
10-21

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WATCHING ANOTHER DEBATE?
YEAH. THEY'RE DISCUSSING FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
SOUNDS BORING.
NOT AT ALL. THEY'RE REFERRING TO HOW MANY RELATIONSHIPS EACH CANDIDATE HAS HAD WITH GIRLS IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

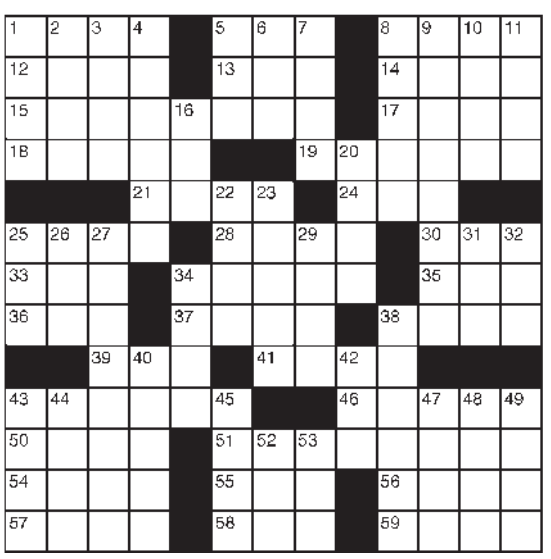
ACROSS
1 Planted, as seed
5 Buddy
8 Rim
12 Mayberry boy
13 The Magic, on scoreboards
14 Sultry Horne
15 Unquestionable
17 Miles away
18 Set straight
19 Groups of eight
21 Pile
24 Cariou of Broadway
25 Physiques
28 Creche trio
30 Calendar box
33 Regret
34 Drink eagerly
35 Night before
36 "Bow-wow!"
37 Twinkler in the sky
38 Ms. Brockovich
39 Simile part
41 Hawaiian feast
43 Moves to one side
46 Characteristic
50 Swiss cheese feature
51 Ricochets
54 Nick and Nora's dog
55 Hearty brew
56 Low-carb diet
57 Cubicle fixture
58 Tease
59 Big fusses

DOWN
1 Fizzy drink
2 Autobahn auto
3 Laptop connection
4 Stallion sounds
5 Miss Piggy's pronoun
6 Illustrations
7 Nile queen, familiarly
8 Gladden
9 Lawyer, perhaps
10 Pesky insect
11 Jug handles
16 Away from SSW
20 Film fragment
22 Latin 101 word
23 Vatican-related
25 Bikini half
26 Couple's pronoun
27 Fallback positions
29 Mentor
31 Bird (Pref.)
32 Hankering
34 Aspiring atty.'s exam
38 California motto
40 Furtive one
42 Pac. counterpart
43 Roe provider
44 Firetruck necessity
45 Mt. Rushmore's state
47 Scored 100 on
48 "Leave — me"
49 General — chicken
52 Peyton's brother
53 Nourished

Solution time: 23 mins.

T	B	A	R		M	A	I		H	O	L	D
A	I	D	A		U	R	N		A	R	F	A
I	T	S	S	O	S	A	D		S	C	A	T
			C	A	T		J	R	B	A	N	A
S	T	F	A	K		T	S	A	R			
I	I	U	R	L		N	O	T	S	O	I	C
A	B	A		N	O	T	R	E		A	R	E
H	E	S	S	O	S	H	Y		B	I	E	R
			E	P	E	E		A	A	R	O	N
C	O	A	X	F	D		A	N	G			
A	B	I	T		I	M	S	O	G	I	A	D
R		I	F		V	A	T		F	O	N	S
B	F	S	T		F	V	A		D	O	N	T

Yesterday's answer 10-21



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Blanca Suarez, 32; Glen Powell, 32; Matt Dallas, 38; Judge Judy Sheindlin, 78.

Happy Birthday: Handle with care. Ease into whatever changes you want to pursue this year. Plan your actions with precision, intelligence and guidelines to ensure you make decisions that bring high returns. There is a shift taking place, and you want to be on the right side of the fault line as situations occur and developments unfold. Hedge your bets. Your numbers are 7, 13, 18, 26, 33, 41, 45.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Don't take a risk. Acting in haste will lead to a loss. Anger will not help you maintain stability. Bide your time, and do your best to get along with everyone until you have a clear-cut plan in place. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* What are you waiting for? Look, see and do before the window of opportunity closes. A change will lift your spirits and encourage you to use your skills proficiently. A partnership looks promising and will improve your chance of a better future. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Someone will take advantage of your enthusiasm if you are too eager to please. If you want to burn energy, do something that will result in a healthier physique. Don't try to buy someone's attention or love. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Use your imagination, and turn your dream into a reality. Concentrate on getting ahead by using your skills or the services you enjoy doing most. Don't neglect a meaningful relationship. A kind gesture will eliminate a complaint. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Uncertainty will prevail. Don't jump from one thing to another. Finish what you start, and live up to your promises. Use your energy wisely, and you will encourage others to follow your lead instead of being drawn into someone's plans. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Set your sights on what you want. It's time for a change. Live life your way. Considering a move, picking up a new skill or license to practice something you enjoy, or spending more time with someone you love is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Refuse to let demanding people interfere with your productivity. Make a to-do list that begins with what's most important to you. Resentment will surface if you allow someone to take advantage of you. Physical activity will relieve stress. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* A change of heart will push you in an exciting direction. Listen, learn, research and address possibilities that can play out in your favor. An unusual turn of events will take place if you reconnect with someone from your past. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* A change to how you deal with money matters will influence your future. Someone will try to talk you into something that isn't in your best interest. Take care of pending problems yourself to avoid mistakes and misrepresentation. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Work with the people who share your goals, and it will be easier to reach your objective. An unusual lifestyle change will pique your interest. Romance is in the stars, and shared expenses will help you achieve a higher standard of living. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Put your energy into personal gain. Look over documents, and update what's outdated. Keep up with the times and trends that will help you avoid a loss or missing out on a deal that could save you money. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A change of plans should include people you have worked with in the past. There are deals to be made and financial gains that will help you raise your game and reach your goal. Romance will improve your relationship with someone special. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are ambitious, active and enthusiastic. You are energetic and unpredictable. *Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2020 Andrews McMeel Syndication*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		3	5	1	4	7		
	8						5	
7				8				4
6				2				9
5	7			6	9	8		1
8								6
4								2
	1			9			4	
		6	3	4	1	9		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9	2	1	8	5	3	6	4	7
8	4	6	2	7	1	3	5	9
5	3	7	4	6	9	1	8	2
3	8	9	7	1	2	5	6	4
4	1	2	6	9	5	7	3	8
6	7	5	3	8	4	2	9	1
2	5	8	1	4	6	9	7	3
7	6	3	9	2	8	4	1	5
1	9	4	5	3	7	8	2	6

Difficulty Level ★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TRINI LOPEZ (1937-2020) Solution: 10 letters

H	P	T	R	A	C	K	S	S	E	R	O	T	C	I
A	A	H	(F)	Y	E	S	S	E	J	M	E	R	F	C
C	U	G	Y	(O)	T	C	G	E	E	L	O	I	I	E
I	L	I	S	N	(L)	R	N	X	M	W	H	N	S	O
R	P	N	T	O	X	(K)	I	A	N	A	D	I	I	J
E	O	O	A	E	C	C	K	D	D	Y	R	D	N	Y
M	P	T	E	L	O	O	P	A	Y	P	A	A	C	T
A	U	A	B	O	L	R	H	D	E	L	C	D	E	I
R	L	T	G	R	U	A	D	R	L	L	H	L	R	C
Y	A	I	I	O	M	U	E	A	A	E	A	I	E	S
C	R	S	B	M	B	V	S	E	S	T	V	T	T	A
A	E	O	E	G	I	B	S	O	N	T	I	O	I	S
G	T	R	H	L	A	B	A	M	B	A	R	U	L	N
E	E	R	T	N	O	M	E	L	S	L	A	I	G	A
L	P	A	L	M	S	P	R	I	N	G	S	Y	O	K

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A Me Ri Ca, Ames, Buddy, Chavira, Cindy, Columbia, Crown, Dallas, Dance, Dirty, Folk, Gibson, Guitar, Hits, If I Had a Hammer, Jesse, Joe, Kansas City, King, La Bamba, Latin, Legacy, Lemon Tree, Live, Love, Mary, Mexico, Moroleón, Palm Springs, Paul, Peter, Phynx, Popular, Reprise, Rock, Rosita, Sincere, The Big Beats, Tonight, Tores, Tracks, Trinidad, Trio

Yesterday's Answer: Bond

Treasuries 24 through 41 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Bucks won't entertain trade offers for Giannis

MILWAUKEE—Whether the Milwaukee Bucks can reach a contract extension with Giannis Antetokounmpo or not they will not entertain trade offers as his free agency looms one year from now.

Multiple sources have emphatically said Milwaukee will not look to trade Antetokounmpo if he passes on the extension. Instead, the Bucks will try to improve their roster and use the next year to show Antetokounmpo why he should stay, according to ESPN's Tim Bontemps.

In a way, it's easy to see why the Bucks would prefer that route, as Antetokounmpo is a truly great player. But history has shown there is considerable risk to weigh in keeping a superstar who is nearing free agency.

The risk would be Antetokounmpo walking and leaving them with nothing. We saw that approach from the Oklahoma City Thunder backfire when Kevin Durant bolted in 2016. LeBron James has also left the Cavs similarly back in 2010.

The opposite was done by the New Orleans Pelicans, who traded Anthony Davis one year before he could leave. That netted them a major haul of draft picks and young players and set them up to quickly become a team on the rise. It also worked out for Davis, who went to the Lakers and won a championship in his first year.

The Spurs also traded Kawhi Leonard one year before his free agency. Though, like Davis in New Orleans, Leonard essentially forced San Antonio's hand and pushed his way out. Also like Davis, he won a title with his new team.

Antetokounmpo has made it clear he won't ask for a trade, which leaves the decision entirely up to the Bucks. Until his future is settled, the rest of the league will be watching, including some who have their eyes on signing him if he becomes a free agent.

AP

Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) looks to shoot past Orlando Magic forward James Ennis III (11) and guard Terrence Ross (31) during the second half of an NBA first round playoff game, Thursday, Aug. 20, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Oladipo seeks max contract

In 2017-18, Victor Oladipo—just traded to Indiana as part of the Paul George deal—had a breakout season, playing at an All-NBA level. He looked like a max player, a franchise cornerstone, worth every penny of a four-year, $84 million contract he had just signed.

This season, coming back from a ruptured quadriceps tendon, he played in just 19 games and, while there were strong stretches, he has a long way to go to get back to his peak form again.

Oladipo is entering the final year of that massive contract. According to a front office source who spoke to Eric Pincus of Bleacher Report, Oladipo is "looking for a max deal" with his next contract.

Two quick thoughts here.

First, of course Oladipo wants a max contract. Every player wants one. But unless next season Oladipo bounces back to his pre-injury form, no team will offer that much, and even then he might not get it. Oladipo is playing for his next contract next season.

Second, his contract expectations could impact his trade value—Indiana is listening to offers for Oladipo, according to multiple reports (and there have been reports Oladipo wants out of Indiana, although he denies it). The Lakers and Knicks are often mentioned, and Pincus makes a case for a trade to Boston (for Gordon Hayward, a swap of guys not living up to their contracts due to injuries).

Meanwhile, former Dayton forward Obi Toppin has emerged as one of the most well-liked prospects in the 2020 NBA Draft and has a number of teams interested in his services, including the Timberwolves, who hold the Nos. 1, 17, and 33 picks on Nov. 18.

The Timberwolves are reportedly high on Toppin given his offensive versatility and ability to stretch the floor. Despite the reported interest, it remains to be seen if the Timberwolves will take him No. 1 or trade down.

In other draft news, for the first time in 12 years, the Bulls transcended their pre-lottery position and won the No. 4 overall pick in the 2020 NBA Draft.

Which direction will they go? There should be options to address the team's playmaking deficiencies and lack of wing depth at No. 4. Artūras Karnišovas and Marc Eversley have both also displayed a penchant for draft-day trades at past NBA stops. All options are seemingly on the table.

Karnišovas is expected to pursue a move up in his first draft as executive vice president of basketball operations.

Reports have swirled for months that the Warriors are interested in flipping their No. 2 overall selection for a win-now piece—with a healthy Steph Curry and Klay Thompson, Draymond Green and solid supplemental pieces in tow, their championship window remains open.

For now, there is a league-wide moratorium on transactions while the NBA and NBPA hammer out modifications to the CBA in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic-affected 2019-20 season. But come draft night, the floodgates could open. ***(AP/NBC)***

NBA staves off $1.5B losses with bubble games

FLORIDA—The Walt Disney World bubble cost the NBA millions to carry out. But that investment kept the league from losing up to $1.5 billion in revenue, Sports Business Daily's John Lombardo reported.

The league paid for exclusive use of the Disney land resorts and completed its regular season, plus the standard-length postseason, at ESPN's nearby Wide World of Sports.

It cost $180 million to stay there for 100 days, per Sports Business Daily, which comes out to about $1.8 million per day. But that was worth the alternative.

The league was nearly done with its regular season when the COVID-19 pandemic forced a hiatus in mid-March. The league decided to go ahead with a strict bubble to keep its athletes healthy—there were zero positive COVID-19 tests—and crown a champion. The Los Angeles Lakers won the title last week.

Deciding to do that, even given how much it cost, could have cut the financial losses of the season in half, Lombardo said on the SBJ daily podcast.

"The bubble really stopped the bleeding of these hemorrhaging loses of $1.5 billion at least," Lombardo said.

"They preserved at least, sources are saying, more than a billion up to $1.5 billion."

He said the actual losses will be "well over a billion dollars," meaning the total without a bubble would have reached $2 billion at minimum. But the real number won't be known until audits for all 30 teams are completed. Those are being done over the next few weeks, he said.

The league's finances already took a hit at the beginning of the season because of the controversy around Daryl Morey tweeting in support of Hong Kong protesters. China's state-run CCTV pulled NBA games from its schedule and didn't resume until Game 5 of the NBA Finals this month. It was off for an entire year.

By holding the rest of its season, the NBA fulfilled its massive TV contracts. The virtual ads, courtside virtual fans club and hard signage around the courts fulfilled deals made with sponsors.

One unnamed executive from a team that was in the bubble told Sports Business Daily, "without a doubt" the effort and investment "was worth it."

Not having fans in attendance at games will hurt the most immediately and moving forward. Approximately 40 percent of team revenue comes from ticket sales. Teams lost an estimated $1.9 million per home game lost, per calculations separately sourced by Forbes and The Athletic.

The losses will impact the 2020-21 salary cap. Players would prefer to avoid another bubble season and front offices want to see fans in the stands for games. The new season is unlikely to start until January.

Sixers bid to host All-Star Game

Though the concept of packed arenas sounds odd at the moment as the NBA takes a breath after spending months in a bubble, the Sixers reportedly are aiming to host the 2026 All-Star Game.

The Sixers are working with Philadelphia officials and Comcast, which owns the Wells Fargo Center, to host an NBA All-Star game in 2026. We already know the 2026 MLB All-Star Game will be in the city and Philadelphia Soccer has submitted a bid to host 2026 FIFA World Cup games at Lincoln Financial Field.

Three years ago, former Governor Ed Rendell had said that Philadelphia was bidding to host the Super Bowl and all All-Star Games in 2026. We'll see if that materializes, but it seems likely regardless that Philadelphia will be an ultra-active sporting hub that year.

The Sixers' lease at the Wells Fargo Center, which is owned by Comcast, ends in 2031. The organization's proposal to redevelop Penn's Landing and build an arena at the location was not selected last month.

There have been four NBA All-Star Games in Philadelphia, with the last one taking place in 2002. The late Kobe Bryant earned MVP honors in a 135-120 Western Conference win (and heard some boos) while the Sixers, the season after their last conference championship, had two starters in Allen Iverson and Dikembe Mutombo. Iverson wore No. 6 in honor of Julius Erving.

Sixers general manager Elton Brand made his first of two All-Star appearances in 2002, chipping in six points and 10 rebounds off the bench for the West. ***(NBC/AP)***

Few fans, masked umpires for World Series

AP
Tampa Bay Rays manager Kevin Cash, center with face mask down, watches over a practice at Globe Life Field as the team prepares for the World Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers, in Arlington, Texas, Monday day, Oct. 19, 2020, 2020.

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — A World Series like no other opens Tuesday night with Clayton Kershaw's Los Angeles Dodgers pursuing redemption, Kevin Kiermaier's Tampa Bay Rays seeking acclaim and Major League Baseball relieved just to reach the championship of the pandemic-delayed season.

Buzz figures to be dampened, with attendance down to about 11,000 in the smallest crowd for a Series game since roughly 1909.

The entire Series will be played on artificial turf for the first time since 1993, at new $1.2 billion Globe Life Field, home of a Texas Rangers team eliminated on Sept. 20. Traditional postgame victory celebrations are barred. But surroundings are largely irrelevant to the favored Dodgers and under-the-radar Rays.

Los Angeles, baseball's biggest spender, is back in the Series for the third time in four years as it seeks its first title since 1988.

Plate umpire Laz Diaz will be masked—along with the rest of the crew.

"I don't know if you watched Game 7 last night but it sure felt like postseason to me," Dodgers third baseman Justin Turner said Monday, after the Dodgers rallied to beat Atlanta 4-3 at Globe Life for the NL pennant. "The back and forth, the momentum shifts, big plays, big swings, big pitches—that was as much of a playoff feel as I've ever experienced."

Tampa Bay, among the major leagues' poorest draws and lowest-salaried rosters, made it this far only once before and lost to Philadelphia in 2008. Perennially unable to get a new ballpark built, the Rays have said they are exploring splitting future seasons between St. Petersburg, Florida, and Montreal.

While the Rays beat Houston for the AL pennant on Saturday night in San Diego, they had to wait until Monday to travel, allowing the Braves to vacate space in the Dallas at Las Colinas - Four Seasons, where the Dodgers have been bivouacked since before the Division Series started Oct. 6. Los Angeles had an optional early afternoon workout with the stadium roof closed, and the Rays had a full practice in the evening under autumn twilight.

"We'll be able to get out there tonight, get a feel for the surroundings of the field and how the ball bounces," Rays outfielder Austin Meadows said. "I'm excited for there to be fans. It's been a long time coming."

The winner will give its city a 2-1 advantage in major U.S. sports league titles during the novel coronavirus pandemic following championships by the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning on Sept. 28 and the NBA's Los Angeles Lakers on Oct. 11.

Both teams reflect imprint of Andrew Friedman, the Rays' general manager from 2005-14 and the Dodgers' president of baseball operations since.

"Some of my best friends in life are there," the 43-year-old Friedman said. "We joked when I left the team that we were going to meet up in the World Series one day, and for it actually to happen is surreal."

After attendance dropped from 68.5 million to 0 during the shortest regular season since 1878 and the first two rounds of an expanded postseason also were played without fans, Major League Baseball sold about 28% capacity for the NL Championship Series, which averaged 10,835 for the seven games at 40,518-capacity Globe Life Field. The Rays arrived in Dallas on Monday after playing the AL Division Series and AL Championship Series at empty Petco Park in San Diego.

Still, it was an accomplishment for MLB after a regular season in which 45 games were postponed for COVID-19-related reasons but just two were not made up. Rookie outfielder Randy Arozarena, the Cuban defector who led the Rays' offense with seven homers in the playoffs, missed the first month of the shortened season after contracting COVID-19 and didn't play his first game until Aug. 30.

"I was throwing sim games May, June in Dallas, thinking about, man, are we going to even play this season?" said Kershaw, the Dodgers' Game 1 starter. "Is this going to be a wasted year in everybody's career and things like that? Is this going to a be a wasted year for the Dodgers with the team that we have? So yeah, I think to be able to be here now and be four wins away from getting to win a World Series I think is really a testament to a lot of people to be able to make this season happen, a testament to the players, even to Major League Baseball that we were able to get to this point. I'm super thankful for that."

Kershaw, a 32-year-old lefthander with three Cy Young Awards and an MVP trophy, is 175-76 in the regular season but 11-12 in the postseason, including 1-2 in the World Series. He has been slowed this month by a reoccurrence of back spasms.

Tampa Bay starts Tyler Glasnow, a 27-year-old righty whose fastball averages 97.5 mph and who grew up in California admiring Kershaw. It will be the Rays' first game in front of fans since spring training was interrupted on March 12 and close to the end of a lengthy bubble existence.

Glasnow and his teammates are looking forward to the end of the Series, when he can go to a bar or sit at a restaurant.

"Hugging someone or seeing family," he said. "Just being able to be a normal person again."

This will be the first World Series entirely at one ballpark since 1944 between the Cardinals and Browns at Sportsman's Park in St. Louis—and the fourth overall. The Yankees and Giants shared New York's Polo Grounds in 1921 and 1922.

"It's a fast ground," Arozarena said through a translator. "I'm not sure there'll be a lot of homers. There's good pitchers on both sides."

Los Angeles had a $95.6 million payroll on Aug. 1, according to figures compiled by MLB. Tampa Bay was 28th at $28.9 million, ahead of only Baltimore and Pittsburgh. The Rays eliminated the Yankees ($83.7 million) and Houston ($81.4 million) during the AL playoffs.

"Regardless of payroll, we know we can compete with anybody," Meadows said.

Added Friedman: "Payrolls don't decide the standings and I think we see evidence of that every year."

Tampa Bay is known best for innovative thinking and hard-throwing relievers, referred to by manager Kevin Cash as a "whole damn stable full of guys that throw 98 miles an hour."

"They didn't make it to the World Series on accident," Dodgers star Mookie Betts said. "It's not going to be easy by any means."

Woods returns, Mickelson marches on

CALIFORNIA (AP)—The build-up to next month's US Masters is in full swing, while men and women are teaming up for a match play feast.

The PGA Tour's displaced Asian swing pitches up in California this week with the Zozo Championship at Sherwood Country Club where Tiger Woods will defend his title memorably secured a year ago, when he equalled the all-time record of 82 PGA Tour wins.

The 15-time major champion triumphed at the first PGA Tour event to be held in Japan to tie Sam Snead's mark, and Woods is on a happy hunting ground as he goes for the outright record.

Woods hosted his World Challenge tournament at the Sherwood layout, Thousand Oaks, from 2000 to 2013, winning five times.

The 44-year-old American hasn't won this year and has looked out of sorts since golf resumed post-lockdown.

But a year ago he arrived in Japan having not played since August following arthroscopic knee surgery and blew away the elite 78-player field, leading from gun to tape in a marathon event that saw a Monday finish because of weather delays.

Claiming the record of 83 wins at Sherwood could tee up Woods nicely for his rescheduled US Masters title defense in November, where he will be going for a sixth green jacket and a 16th major.

Meanwhile, Phil Mickelson heads to California to start his own Masters build-up at the Zozo Championship having completed a second dominant win in two starts on the seniors tour.

Mickelson is a rookie on the PGA Tour Champions circuit this year but is now two-for-two after beating another left-hander and former major champion, Mike Weir, by three strokes to win the Dominion Energy Charity Classic on Sunday.

He may be 50 now, but Mickelson is averaging well over 310 yards off the tee—not quite in the Bryson DeChambeau class but up there with many of the PGA Tour's best—which has many thinking he could become the oldest ever major champion at Augusta.

Meanwhile the busy "Lefty" announced his latest charity challenge will see him team up with NBA legend Charles Barkley in made-for-TV match against two-time NBA MVP and accomplished golfer Steph Curry and five-time NFL MVP-winning quarterback Peyton Manning.

"The Match: Champions for Change" will take place on Friday, November 27.

Proceeds from the event will help promote diversity and inclusion, through donations to historically Black colleges and universities.

Mickelson said he was looking forward to pairing with Barkley, despite his notoriously poor golf swing.

"While we may need a handicap for Chuck," said Mickelson. "I'm looking forward to playing with Peyton and Stephen and to help raise money for another important cause."

Chiefs bounce back, beat Bills in make-up game

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP)—Patrick Mahomes didn't mind taking a back seat to rookie Clyde Edwards-Helaire and the Kansas City Chiefs' running attack.

With the Buffalo Bills working hard to limit deep throws by the strong-armed Mahomes, he gladly kept handing off the ball, and Kansas City beat Buffalo 26-17 on Monday night in a game that was originally scheduled for last Thursday.

"You know my nature, I want to throw it deep every time. We want to go down and throw these long touchdowns," said Mahomes, the 2018 MVP. "But if teams are going to play us like this, we've got to show we can run the football."

Mission accomplished.

Led by Edwards-Helaire's 161 yards rushing, the Chiefs finished with 245—the most since Mahomes took over as starter in 2017. Kansas City's 46 rushing attempts were also the most in eight years under coach Andy Reid, and that was with newly signed Le'Veon Bell waiting to make his debut after signing with the Chiefs last Thursday.

"I can't wait," Bell tweeted during the game.

Edwards-Helaire has already chatted with the veteran Bell and is excited to team up.

"Another guy coming in, another piece to the puzzle. For me, we can only go up," Edwards-Helaire said. "Anything I can do to pick his brain and gain knowledge from, I'm there for it."

Mahomes finished 21 of 26 for 225 yards with two touchdowns, both to tight end Travis Kelce. His first touchdown was the 90th of his career in his 37th game, breaking the NFL record for fewest games to 90 TD passes. Hall of Famer Dan Marino had the previous mark at 40 games.

The Chiefs are off to their third 5-1 start in four seasons, and they bounced back from a sloppy 40-32 loss to the Las Vegas Raiders on Oct. 11.

AP

The Kansas City Chiefs defense tackles Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen, center, during the first half of an NFL game, Monday, Oct. 19, 2020, in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Buffalo (4-2) lost its second straight. The Bills fell 42-16 at Tennessee last Tuesday, a game that was moved because of a COVID-19 outbreak on the Titans. That led to the Kansas City-Buffalo game being pushed back as well. The Chiefs, who were originally scheduled to play three games in 11 days, wound up having two more days of rest than the Bills.

Buffalo's defense sold out to prevent Mahomes from going deep but proved vulnerable against the run.

"We felt we did well limiting them from taking it off the top, but the run game's just another part of their game, and they executed it well," safety Micah Hyde said.

The Bills were undone by allowing the Chiefs to convert nine of 14 third-down chances, two of them on a 12-play, 75-yard drive that ended on Harrison Butker's 30-yard field goal with 1:56 remaining.

During that drive, Buffalo's Justin Zimmer stripped the ball from Edwards-Helaire at the Kansas City 30. The play was ruled a fumble on the field, but that call was overturned after replays showed Edwards-Helaire's knee was down.

Two plays later, on third-and-11, Mahomes scrambled out of trouble and hit Byron Pringle for 37 yards. Mahomes then ate up more clock with a 9-yard scamper on third-and-7.

"Frustrating, just because we feel like as a defense we've got to find a way to get our offense back on the field," Hyde said. "We had to get a stop and we didn't."

Buffalo's run defense had its worst outing since giving up 273 yards in a loss to New England on Dec. 23, 2018.

Josh Allen finished 14 of 27 for 122 yards with touchdown passes to Stefon Diggs and Cole Beasley.

In what was supposed to be a showdown of the NFL's top passers, the Chiefs kept the Allen-led Bills cooling their heels on the sideline. Kansas City had four drives of 10 plays or more and dominated time of possession by more than 15 minutes.

Cardinals 38, Cowboys 10

Kyler Murray accounted for three touchdowns in his first game back home as a pro, Ezekiel Elliott set up the first two Arizona TDs with fumbles and the Cardinals beat the Dallas Cowboys

The speedy quarterback who won three high school championships and a Big 12 title at the home of the Cowboys improved to 7-0 as a starter at AT&T Stadium, throwing for two scores despite a rough start through the air and rushing for 74 yards and a TD.

It was the "Monday Night Football" debut for Murray and Kliff Kingsbury, who also had a happy first trip to his native Texas as an NFL coach.

The Cardinals (4-2) are tied for second place in the tough NFC West. Arizona is above .500 this late in the season for the first time since 2015, its most recent playoff year.

Andy Dalton had the rest of Dallas' four turnovers with two interceptions in his first start for the Cowboys (2-4) in place of injured star Dak Prescott.

Murray misfired on eight of his first 11 passes and finished 9 of 24 for 188 yards. He hit Christian Kirk in stride on an 80-yard touchdown in the second quarter. Kenyan Drake rushed for two TDs and 164 yards.

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With the victory, Australia kept the No. 2 spot in the team standings, tying New Zealand and Kiribati, as the three squads hold identical 3-1 records. Samoa is still on top of the field with its unbeaten 4-0 mark, while Nauru (2-2), Pacific Team 1 (2-2), PNG (2-2), Solomon Islands (1-3), Fiji (0-4), and Pacific Team 2 (0-4) complete the rankings.

Samoa won the battle of undefeated teams in Round 4 after outclassing New Zealand, 2,721.33 kg-2,094.50 kg. In other fourth round results, Nauru downed Kiribati, PNG edged the Solomon Islands, and Pacific Team 1 beat Fiji.

Meanwhile, Round 5 of the virtual meet will be held on Oct. 30 and 31 with Samoa hoping to extend its streak when it faces Kiribati. Other pairings in the fifth round are New Zealand vs Solomon Islands; Australia vs PNG; Pacific Team 1 vs Nauru; and Pacific Team 2 vs Fiji.

CONTRIBITED PHOTO

In this file photo, David Barnhouse competes in a local tournament held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Hall.

FLASHBACK

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and the CNMI.

Song was also the fastest among the CNMI runners, beating Kuu Nishimura (19:44), also from SIS, Agape's Kobe Yang (20:16), SIS' Sam Culp (20:20), and Zhijie Cao (20:54). Other Team Marianas finishers in the boys division were Agape's Xinshi Liang (21:01), Shan Haozhe (21:28), Teng Zhang (21:56), and Yutian Lou (22:02), and SIS' John Paul Sablan (22.21), Robbie Schorr (23:04), Charles McDonald (23:08), and Paul Xiong (25:17).

In the women's division, Team Marianas' Top 3 finishers were SIS' Anika Snyder, Tiana Cabrera and Malika Miyawaki, who clocked in at 23:05, 23:34 and 25:12, respectively. Agape's Eunice Xu (25:36), Emma Pang (24:38) Alice Yang (25:58), Jiamei Xu (26:11), Nancy Han (26:28), Shi Yihong (26:54), and Vivian Wu (27:07), and SIS' Jinju Thompson (28:40) were the other Team Marianas runners in the women's division.

With Song finishing in the Top 16 and his teammates and the squad's female runners also posting respectable times, Team Marianas placed third in the overall rankings, joining St. Mary's/Seisen and Christian Academy in Japan in the podium.

Meanwhile, this year's edition of the Asia Pacific Invitational Cross-Country Championships in Guam was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bucks won't entertain trade offers for Giannis

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Few fans, masked umpires for World Serie

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3 lifters debut in Oceania meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Three weightlifters represented the CNMI in the fourth round of the 2020-2021 Oceania Weightlifting Federation League Email Tournament held last Oct. 2 and 3.

David Barnhouse, Joshua Mettao, and Aaron Pamintuan suited up for the Commonwealth and Pacific Team 2 in the men's division and were pitted against the second-running Australia Team. Barnhouse, who won three golds medals in the 2014 Micronesian Games in Pohnpei, had the best total among the three CNMI weightlifters and second best in Pacific Team 2 with his 222 kg. He had 102 kg in snatch and 120 in the clean and jerk. The Commonwealth belt was just slightly behind Pacific Team 2 top finisher Quentin Mattei of New Caledonia, as the latter recorded 223 kg (100 kg in snatch and 123 kg in clean and jerk).

Mettao had a total of 185 kg after his 85 kg in snatch and 100 kg in clean and jerk, while Pamintuan's 75 in snatch and 94 kg in clean and jerk gave him 169 kg. Mettao, Pamintuan, and Barnhouse joined the 2020-2021 Oceania Weightlifting Federation League Email Tournament for the first time, as the CNMI was represented by Leo Apelo and Deion Sabino in the first three rounds and Brandon Regis in the second. In the women's division, Antonette Labausa and Raegine Camacho competed in two out of the first three rounds, but missed the fourth where Guam's Jacinta Sumagaysay emerged as the top performer for Pacific Team 2 after registering 185 kg.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Aaron Pamintuan, seen here competing in a local event early this year at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Hall, was one of the three CNMI weightlifters who debuted in the 2020-2021 Oceania Weightlifting Federation League Email Tournament.

The OWF competition is a virtual tournament being held in celebration of the group's 40th anniversary and will run for seven rounds with the event that started in July wrapping up in January 2021. Each round, two countries are pitted against each other (men's and women's divisions combined), but in the CNMI's case, it combined with weightlifters from New Caledonia, Palau, and Guam due to lack of enough participants to form Pacific Team 2. Pacific Team 1, on the other hand, is made up of weightlifters from the Cook Islands, Tahiti, Wallis & Futuna, Tonga, and Niue. Kiribati, Samoa, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, New Zealand, Fiji, and Australia have their own squads.

The Aussies defeated Pacific Team 2 in the fourth round, 2,309.76 kg-1,240.55 kg. Each team's scores were determined by subtracting the squad's total bodyweight from the aggregate total (the 14 members combined record in snatch and clean and jerk).

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Flashback: Fitting swan song for Song

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Multi-sport athlete Ken Song marked his last high school cross country season in style after earning an All-Island Team honors in the 2019 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross-Country Championships in Japan.

The Saipan International School graduate was selected on Team Marianas, joining forces with fellow SIS runners and Agape Christian School students. He finished in the Top 16 of the men's 5K race to make it to the All-Island Team. The 18-year-old completed the race at the Urayasu-shi Sogo Koen in Tokyo in 18:23.2 for the No. 12 spot overall in the boys division, which featured nearly 100 runners from Japan, Guam,

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Team Marianas runners pose for a group photo after competing in the 2019 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross-Country Championships in Japan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ken Song, front row right, is seen here along with other students heading out to the course during an interscholastic race last year.